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HARDING
U N I V E R S I T Y



Swine flu outbreak threatens to become pandemic

by ASHTON REELY
opinions editor

In light of the predicted swine flu pandemic, members of Harding's Emergency Management Committee met Tuesday to discuss preventative measures. The committee, which was formed in 2001 shortly after Sept. 11, has representatives from most departments on campus, providing for a wide range of input.

Lynn McCarty, director of Student Health Services, said Tuesday's meeting was to discuss a pandemic plan and how to implement it if the need arises.

"The plan includes communication with the campus, identifying people who are at risk for exposure or infection, caregiver training and plans for those who do become ill," McCarty said. "[We also discussed] how we interface with state and local agencies for the best outcome for our students, faculty and staff."

What to call this new strain of flu has been debated, and the World Health Organization said that as of April 30, it will only

refer to it by its official designation, influenza A (H1N1), after the Egyptian government began slaughtering pigs in a misguided attempt to contain the virus (it is not spread through pigs or by eating pork). News of its spread has been raising alarms around the globe. Though influenza viruses tend to come out of Asia, this strain seems to originate in Mexico.

According to the WHO Web site, as of April 30, 11 countries have officially reported 257 cases of swine influenza.

The United States government has reported 109 laboratory-confirmed human cases of infection over 11 states, with one death. There have been no reported cases in Arkansas.

Mexico, the epicenter of the pandemic, has reported 97 confirmed human cases of infection, including seven deaths.

Dr. Margaret Chan, WHO's Director-General, raised the current level of influenza pandemic alert from phase four to five (out of six levels), stating, "all countries should immediately activate their pandemic preparedness plans."

see FLU page 3a



Passengers walk inside a metro station in Mexico City on Wednesday. A citywide shutdown has been declared in Mexico City due to the swine flu outbreak.

photo by RODRIGO ABD | AP

Hundreds 'rescued' at LR event

by KYLIE AKINS
student reporter

People slowly awoke in their sleeping bags Sunday morning with hard pavement beneath them and the reality that they were still not "rescued." The sun was peeking above the buildings that overshadowed the cold parking lot. Disappointment was apparent in the eyes of the sleepy men and women as they prepared to wait for a cultural or political leader to come and rescue them. By Sunday morning at 5, the participants had been waiting for more than 12 hours straight.

Soon, however, they realized that their hopelessness was nothing in comparison to the child soldiers in Uganda that they were there to represent. Children in Uganda have been robbed of their childhoods and forced into military service over the past 20 years, experiencing a deeper hopelessness every day they are under the army's control. The participants' brief glimpse of bleakness was dwarfed by the children's constant fear and grief from being abducted and forced to serve in an army.

Saturday, April 24, hundreds of people gathered at Little Rock's capitol building to be voluntarily "abducted" in participation with Invisible Children's event, The Rescue.

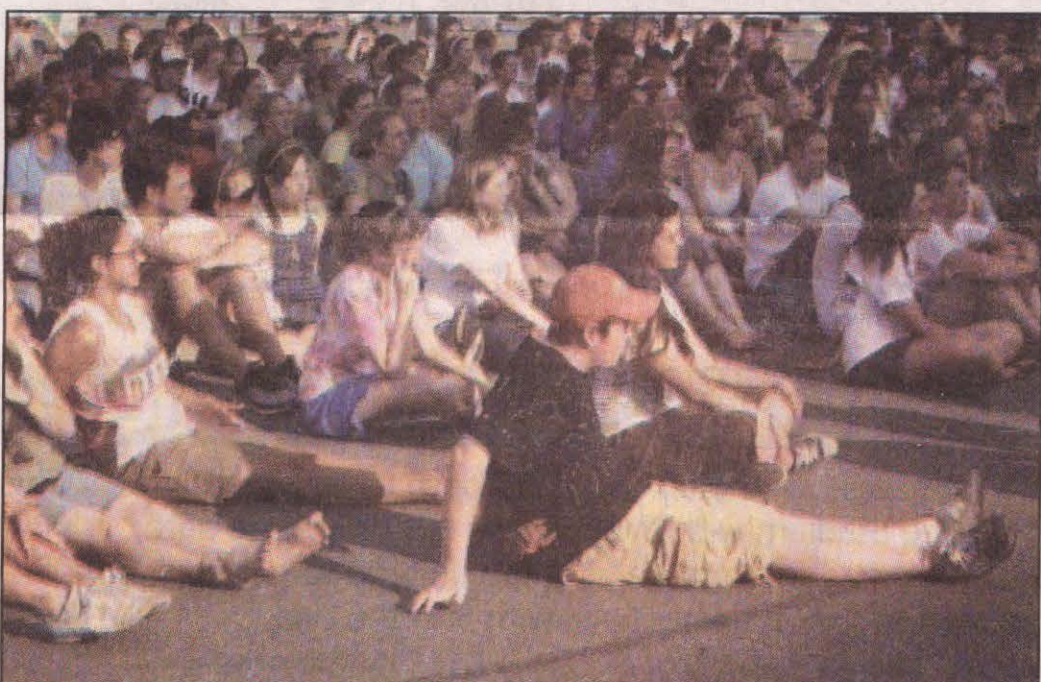


photo courtesy of NATALIE FREEMAN

About 400 people, mostly area college students, were "abducted" Saturday, April 24, during The Rescue, an event held to raise awareness for the Invisible Children organization.

Invisible Children is a non-profit organization dedicated to raising awareness and pursuing a solution for the plight of the children in Uganda who are abducted and forced to serve in a rebel army, the Lord's Resistance Army, under the leadership of Joseph Kony. It is a crisis more than 20 years old and is now receiving attention through documentaries and awareness movements, such as The Rescue.

The Rescue event began with the participants meeting at Little Rock's capitol building, the "abduction site." Pictures of the participants were stapled to a board, and the "abducted" groups walked connected by a rope for two and a half miles to the "Lord's Resistance Army camp," the War Memorial Stadium's parking lot. Once there, they set up a miniature encampment, rolling out their sleeping bags to prepare for the

coming night with the knowledge that they would not be "rescued" until certain qualifications were met: coverage by the media and attendance by a cultural or political leader.

Little Rock was one of 100 cities participating in The Rescue across 10 countries, including the U.S., South Africa, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, Mexico, UK and Ireland.

see RESCUE page 3a

Clifton holds his first SA meeting

by SARAH KYLE
staff reporter

With the 2008-2009 school year coming to a close, President-elect Bryan Clifton led his first Student Association meeting Wednesday, April 29, to discuss ideas and plans for the upcoming 2009-2010 school year.

Clifton said students could look forward to a variety of things next year, including new additions to make daily chapel more exciting and useful for the student body.

Among these additions are plans to have one completely student-led chapel each week. Clifton said he hoped this would make students more interested in the chapel program.

Clifton said he would like to get students who have never spoken in chapel to speak, and students should give suggestions for possible speakers.

Also new next fall will be chapel videos every Monday to announce an event or theme on campus for the week. Topics for these videos are currently undecided, but they will be made by Harrison Dell, Brett Ellis, Nathan Dullnig, JT Hill, Brett Fielder and others.

"That's the stuff that people really remember. Everybody loves chapel videos," Clifton said. "It's Monday morning, setting a good tone, good mood, getting people to wake up, get them ready for the week."

All videos will be posted on the SA Web site, which Clifton said would be up and running by early this summer. The Web site will also feature a Google calendar for events across campus and SA meetings, as well as pictures of all SA officers, class and dorm representatives and committee chairs.

Clifton said students could also look forward to the return of the HUD Cup, a series of games and competitions between different dormitories across campus. Clifton said the HUD Cup will be especially aimed at incoming freshmen and the sophomore class and will be a way to get students more involved and excited about campus life.

Other possibilities for the fall semester include an involvement fair for service and interest organizations, an all-school retreat and tailgates to increase school participation at athletic events.

Guest professor speaks on economic development

New interdisciplinary major in international development planned between Colleges of Business, Bible

by JORDAN BAILEY
assistant copy editor

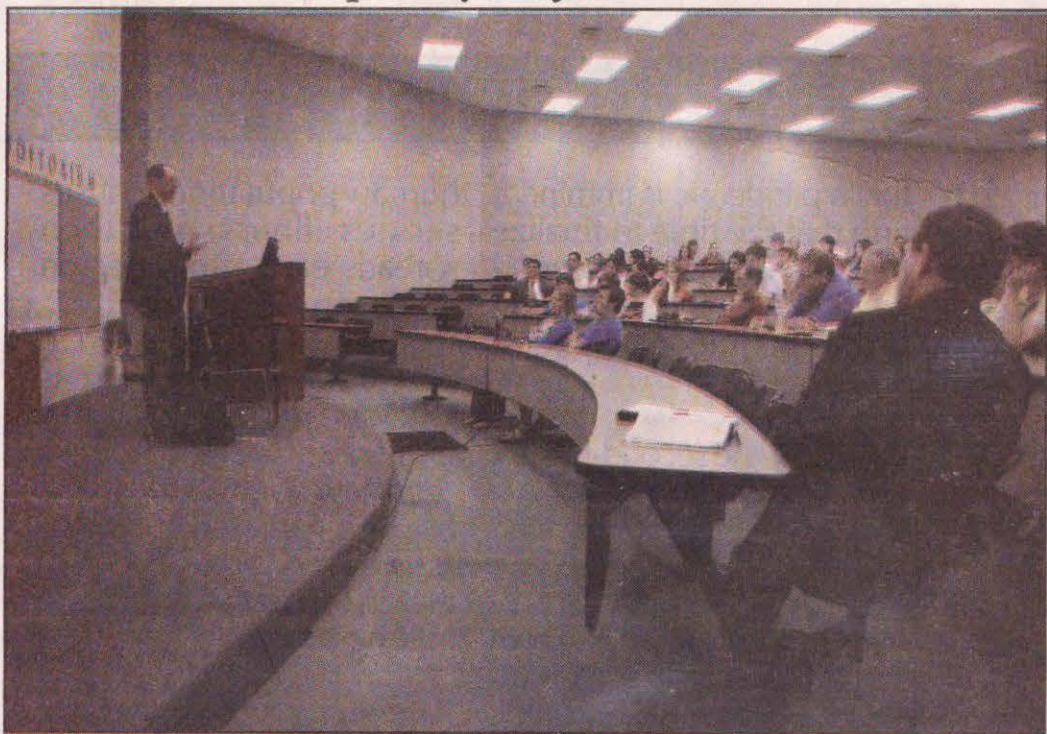


photo by NICK MICHAEL | Petit Jean

Dr. David Bronkema, the Director of International Development at Eastern University, speaks to a group of Harding students and faculty during a presentation cosponsored by the College of Business Administration and the College of Bible and Religion. This discussion was the latest of several events on Harding's campus focused on economic development.

Dr. David Bronkema, Director of International Development at Eastern University, spoke about economic development April 23 in the McInteer building. The College of Bible and Religion cosponsored the event with the College of Business Administration.

"In some ways, it was symbolic of business having a purpose and business as missions and also the Bible department being concerned with social justice as well as evangelism," said Chris Cochran, a senior accounting and finance major.

Bronkema is also an associate professor of international development at Eastern, a Christian university in Philadelphia. According to Cochran and Dr. Monte Cox, Dean of the College of Bible and Religion, Bronkema was well received.

"I believe the audience response was positive," Cox said. "Many of our students are exploring ministry opportunities in international development. So it was great to have a guest on campus with Dr.

Bronkema's expertise and experience."

Some of the focuses of the speech were on developing a balance between evangelism and social action. Cochran said Bronkema spoke about God's concern for the oppressed and the responsibility to meet people's needs in conjunction with sharing faith.

"For me, it bridged the disparity I had felt before between those who say evangelism is more important and those who take action," Cochran said.

Cochran worked with Cox and Dr. Bryan D. Burks, Dean of the College of Business Administration, to bring Bronkema to Harding. Bronkema hosted Cochran and Burks on a trip to Philadelphia in November 2008, and Eastern also hosted a Harding spring break campaign in 2008.

Burks said he agreed with Cochran and Cox about the success and acceptance of Bronkema's presentation.

"It was obvious from the evening presentation with a crowd of over 100 students that there is an

interest from our student body," Burks said. "The questions were thought-provoking and relevant to today's discussion of this issue."

Burks announced at the event that the College of Bible and Religion and the College of Business Administration are looking to begin an interdisciplinary major and minor in international development.

"We do plan to look at our curriculum in the near future," Burks said. "We will investigate undergraduate as well as graduate opportunities in economic development."

Cox said he and Burks have been discussing an interdisciplinary major in international development for the past few years.

"We do want to explore the possibility of offering a B.A. degree in International Development," Cox said. "In the meantime, we are investigating ways of offering an interdisciplinary degree according to guidelines in the current catalogue."

Bronkema's presentation was filmed and is available on iTunes U for students who are interested but were unable to attend the event.

TheNewsreel

Supreme Court upholds
profanity crackdown

On Tuesday, the Supreme Court ruled to uphold a U.S. government crackdown on profanity by approving a policy that subjects U.S. television networks to fines for airing a single expletive on a live show before 10 p.m.

This ruling, the first to deal with broadcast indecency in 30 years, has brought acclaim from parents and caused upset among critics who said that the ruling is out of touch with average Americans.

"What's the point of continuing to apply a censorship regime to one of the oldest mediums - broadcast TV and radio - when kids are flocking to unregulated mediums in large numbers?" said Adam Thierer, a senior fellow with the Progress and Freedom Foundation think-tank on the digital revolution.

The Parents Television Council said that it ensures the well-being of children, and that it is "an incredible victory for families."

This ruling does not have jurisdiction over satellite or cable TV channels such as MTV and HBO.

South Korean beagles
glow red

Four beagles in South Korea glow red under ultraviolet light as a result of cloning techniques implemented in their conception, scientists reported Tuesday.

Researchers altered the dogs' genetic makeup, causing them to carry fluorescent genes. The areas of their bodies that have thin skin, like nails and abdomens, look red even to the naked eye. Scientists hope that the techniques used to change the genetic makeup of the dogs will help develop cures for human diseases.

"What's significant in this work is not the dogs expressing red colors but that we planted genes into them," Seoul National University professor Lee Byeong-chun, head of the research team, said.

The team took skin cells from a beagle and inserted fluorescent genes into them. They then placed them into eggs and implanted them in the womb of a surrogate mother.

Genetic link to autism
discovered

Scientists have discovered the first common genetic link to autism, potentially accounting for 15 percent of the disease's cases, researchers said Tuesday.

These genetic mutations lead to specific abnormalities in the frontal lobe of the brain, which is involved in social behavior and abstract thought. This finding has given scientists a new understanding of why people with autism struggle with social interaction and often interpret ideas in a concrete and literal way.

In one of the largest studies to date, researchers examined and compared the DNA of more than 12,000 individuals with autism. Scientists say that the disease could be caused by as many as 50 genes.

Autism refers to a spectrum of diseases, from mild symptoms to severe and profound inability to communicate. According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and prevention, autism affects as many as one in 150 children.

Twitter user retention
study released

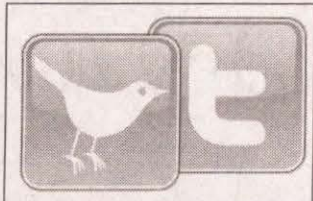
More than 60 percent of Twitter users stopped using the free site after one month of use, Nielsen Online reported Wednesday.

"Twitter's audience retention rate, or the percentage of a given month's users who come back the following month, is currently about 40 percent,"

David Martin, Nielsen Online's vice president of primary research, said.

The social networking site has recently grown in popularity in response to celebrities, like Ashton Kutcher and Oprah Winfrey, who have been sending out "tweets" to alert readers of news or their daily activities.

But with a retention rate of 40 percent, the site's growth will be limited. Facebook and MySpace have retention rates of about 70 percent, with Facebook having around 200 million users.



TheNumber

\$328,835

— Taxpayer dollars spent on a publicity-photo shoot with one of the planes that serves as Air Force One. The plane made a low-altitude flight over New York Harbor on Tuesday, causing panic of a possible terrorist attack.

TheWindow



special to the Bison

Packets of caps and gowns for the May 9 graduation ceremony line tables in the student center outside of the bookstore. There are 601 graduates in the class of 2009.

TheWatercooler

"The people who built Yankee Stadium with their tax money can no more afford \$1,200 a game than they can afford \$2,500."

— Richard Brodsky, New York assemblyman, in response to the New York Yankees' decision to slash the prices of some premium seats due to low demand.

"I'm happy the Pope is coming, but he can't take away our suffering."

— Maria Pia Falasca, resident of the Italian village of Onna, the epicenter of an earthquake that caused nearly 300 fatalities earlier this month.

"It doesn't matter how much they raise the ante; they do tend to get away with it in the end."

— Christopher Hughes, a North Korea expert from England's University of Warwick, on North Korea's threat to carry out more ballistic-missile tests.

"It's premature to even measure any potential impact."

— Elizabeth Merida, spokeswoman for the American Transport Association, saying that it may be weeks before the travel industry knows how it has been affected by the swine flu outbreak.

"This application was deeply offensive and should not have been approved for distribution on the App Store."

— Statement from Apple, after discontinuing the iPhone Baby Shaker application, which made a game out of quieting crying babies by shaking them.

"It's still in between fiction and fact."

— Asif Ali Zardari, Pakistan's President, stating that although Pakistan's intelligence agencies believe Osama bin Laden may be dead, there is no definitive proof.

TheScoop

As the World Health Organization raised the flu threat level from Phase 4 to Phase 5, indicating that a pandemic is "imminent," questions arose over the definitions of Phase 5 and pandemic.

According to the WHO Web site, "Phase 5 is characterized by human-to-human spread of the virus into at least two countries in one WHO region. While most countries will not be affected at this stage, the declaration of Phase 5 is a strong signal

that a pandemic is imminent and that the time to finalize the organization, communication and implementation of the planned mitigation measures is short."

Phase 5 is the second-highest alert level, with Phase 6 indicating a true pandemic.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services said that an influenza pandemic "is a global outbreak of disease that occurs when a new influenza A virus appears or 'emerges' in the

human population, causes serious illness, and then spreads easily from person to person worldwide."

An influenza pandemic is caused by new subtypes of influenza, differing from "epidemics" or seasonal outbreaks of influenza, which are caused by subtypes of the virus that already circulate among people.

Pandemics in the past have led to high levels of illness, death, social disruption and economic loss.

THE FIRST 100 DAYS

ASI analyzes Obama presidency

by RACHEL DENZIN
student reporter

The American Studies Institute of Distinguished Students presented an analysis of the first 100 days of the Obama presidency Sunday, April 26, in the Heritage Auditorium.

The symposium consisted of remarks from four distinguished panelists: Dr. Monte Cox, dean of the College of Bible and religion; Dr. Kevin Klein, department chairman and associate professor of history; Chris Schandavel, former chairman of Harding College Republicans and current president of the American Studies Institute; and Jenny Thurston, a graduate student of education.

Each panelist began the symposium with an opening statement explaining his or her personal analysis of President Obama's progress thus far into his presidential term.

Thurston said that Obama has had a mixture of both successes and failures in his first 100 days as president.

Cox gave his impressions of Obama's first 100 days from an independent viewpoint, saying that Obama has successfully improved America's image overseas since taking office in January.

"It does concern me that [Obama] thinks government is the answer, but I appreciate his conciliatory tone and genuine humility," Cox said.

Klein began by pointing out that 100 days is an "artificial and not a particularly benchmark look at someone" in office.

"Obama has a 65 percent approval rating from the public, which is less than JFK and Reagan, more than Clinton, and even with Bush Sr., Bush Jr. and Carter," Klein said. "This is right where he should be at this time."

However, Klein said he be-

lieved Obama seems to want to avoid and is "incapable" of setting priorities in his legislative agenda.

Schandavel spoke about legislations Obama has overturned and ones he has supported since being appointed as president. He mentioned many abortion groups he has supported by increasing funding and overturning any legislation former president Bush had against it and the promise on his Web site to support gay rights and women's right to "choose" (when it comes to abortion).

"[Obama] promised to find common ground [between far-rights and far-lefts], but he is not finding common ground; instead he is doing just the opposite [by appointing far-left extremists to his cabinet]," Schandavel said.

After panelists addressed the audience with their individual analysis, each panelist had the opportunity to address fellow

panel members.

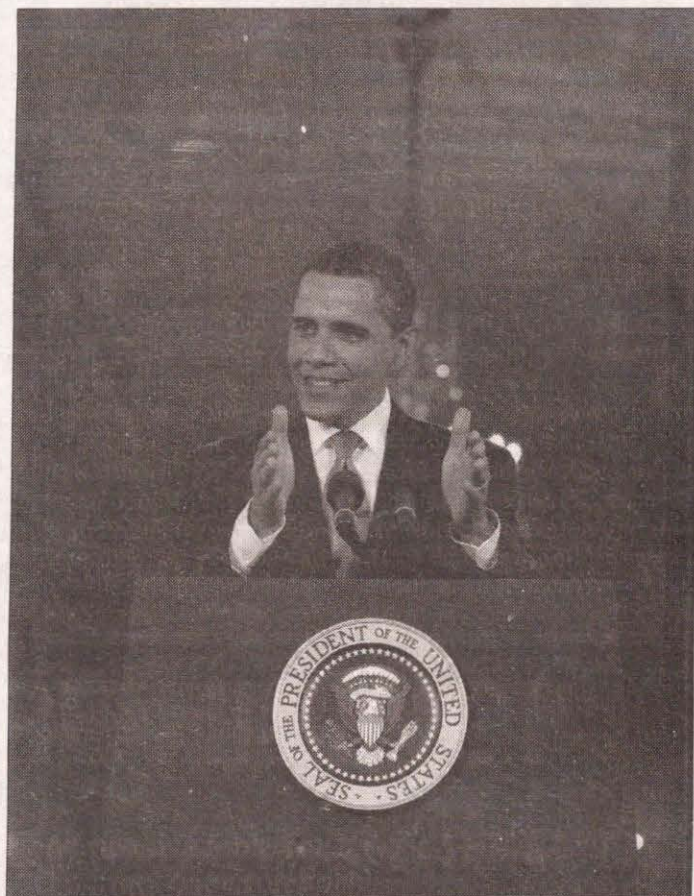
Cox took the opportunity to address Klein, saying that Klein said Obama was a "bit of an under-achiever," and if that analysis could in part be because Obama was elected into a financial crisis.

"So did FDR and Bush Sr.," Klein said. "A lot of presidents have had to make these difficult beginnings... he has created more problems for himself, however, with the stimulus package."

Schandavel agreed with Klein's sentiments of how Obama has spent his first 100 days in office.

"Style seems to be more important than substance, and when you really get down to it that's not enough," Schandavel said.

Although each panelist had a different analysis of the progress Obama has made up to this point in his presidency, all agree that there is still a lot that can only be revealed in time.



CHARLES DHARAPAK | AP

Pres. Barack Obama talks with reporters during a news conference at the White House on Wednesday.

Libertas team
hope newsletter
inspired prideby KYLIE AKINS
student reporter

A Harding student began to feel like his voice was one of the past, unheard and unsupported by many of his fellow students. He was compelled to raise his voice to represent many others who felt as he did.

Senior Nicholas Horton and Derek Glover together founded the *Libertas Exemplar*, a conservative newsletter, and printed their first issue the spring semester of 2008. Since then, they printed three that spring semester and three more the fall semester of 2008.

Horton said the name was a fusion of his and Glover's ideas for the newsletter. "*Libertas*" is Latin for "freedom," and *exemplar* means "standard."

"It is basically saying this is our take on what freedom and our country should look like," Horton said.

The newsletter included current events, especially concerning the presidential election at the time, and editorials addressing issues such as national defense, abortion and economics.

Horton said he was comfortable labeling the newsletter and himself as conservative, and it is a label he is proud to wear.

"I would define conservative as traditional values and beliefs, and the idea that our country is founded on certain principles," Horton said. "Our constitution is still valid and hasn't changed. We should uphold the values of our founders and the constitution, values such as limited government, strong national defense and traditional values."

Many students here at Harding would consider themselves conservative, Horton said, but he felt the need to reform the way people understand the word "conservative."

"Liberals try to label us close-minded, angry and cold-hearted, because supposedly we don't care about issues such as poverty and healthcare. But of course we do care about those things. We just have different solutions about it. We actually have thoughtful

"Our goal was for, when people read the paper and got to the end and put it down, for them to feel a sense of pride in who they are as an American and a sense of responsibility in themselves."

Nicholas Horton
Libertas Exemplar
founder

opinions on issues."

The newsletters averaged 500 copies each publication, and were distributed on campus and mailed to around 20 states and two countries.

After distributing the publications, Horton received mainly positive feedback through e-mails and Facebook messages. However, some saw the *Libertas Exemplar* as a rival to the *Bison*, but Horton said this was not his intent.

"They served two different purposes," Horton said. "We weren't in any way trying to compete. It's apples and oranges."

Horton hopes that a return to conservatism will redefine the individual's personal duty as a citizen.

"Our goal was for, when people read the paper and got to the end and put it down, for them to feel a sense of pride in who they are as an American and a sense of responsibility in themselves," Horton said.

The newsletter was not printed this semester because the company that provided funding went out of business. Horton graduates this May, and *Libertas Exemplar* will probably not be printed in the future.

"I hope that people when they look back on it, they will see is that we weren't just a bunch of angry, disgruntled college students. I would like for people to see it as a group of guys who were very principled, value-oriented, and convicted to share what they believe."

FLU: Swine strain symptoms similar to common flu; test required for diagnosis

CONTINUED from page 1a

In response, President Obama asked Congress on Tuesday for an additional \$1.5 billion to fight the flu; the money will help supplement antiviral stockpiles, add medical equipment and start preparations for a vaccine.

Symptoms of swine flu are like regular flu symptoms and include fever, cough, sore throat, body aches, headache, chills and fatigue.

Because these symptoms

can result from a number of conditions, it takes a lab test to tell your doctor whether it is, in fact, swine flu.

McCarty said that if students find they have the above symptoms, they should report it to Student Health Services by calling 501-279-4346 and then dialing 0.

"Students need to know how to protect themselves and others by avoiding close contact with anyone who is ill, by staying home

if they are sick, by covering their nose and mouth with a tissue when they cough or sneeze and promptly disposing of tissue in the trash," McCarty said. "[They should also] frequently wash their hands and avoid touching their nose, eyes and mouth."

McCarty said she also recommends that everyone practice good health habits: getting plenty of sleep, being physically active, managing stress, drinking plenty of fluids and

choosing nutritious foods.

Karen Kelley, who is also on the committee, said she would like to guide students to www.pandemicflu.gov and www.who.org for constantly updated information on the outbreak.

Harding Pipeline is also offering useful information concerning the situation. Kelley said it is important to stress that, though it is a concerning public health issue, it is not a cause for panic.

RESCUE: Participants write cultural, political leaders seeking 'rescue'

CONTINUED from page 1a

Approximately 400 people participated in the Little Rock Rescue, many of them local college students from Harding University, Hendrix University, Ouachita Baptist University, Arkansas State University and others. Each had their own reasons for becoming involved with *Invisible Children*.

Sarah Jones, a freshman from Arkansas State University, said she felt that no one should be able to know about an atrocity such as this and not do anything about it.

"[The children] have hopes and dreams and names and hearts just as much as we do," Jones said. "We are blessed to be in America, but their families don't even know if they're dead or alive. They're just numbers. I hope they will be able to get their identities back and go home where they belong."

Harding sophomore Leslie Stackpole, a volunteer for The Rescue, said there is always a fear present in the lives of the children in that area.

"There should be no reason they should have to fear for their lives just because they are alive, not because they did anything else but breathe," Stackpole said. "That's no way to live."

Even high school students were compelled to be involved in The Rescue. Maryan Adamu, a senior at the Arkansas School for Math and Science, said she hopes political leaders will see that the people they represent are dedicated to this issue.

"They'll see that the young people who are characterized as apathetic are not, and we actually care about something," Adamu said. "It will push them to do more in terms of policy."

John Logan, a freshman at Ouachita Baptist, said sometimes people forget that they all share a common world.

"We all live here on earth," Logan said. "We get so worried about money and things, we

"Your attention and dedication to this issue and your sacrifice last night on behalf of the invisible children is monumental and is important to bring attention to this terrible situation. As you stand out here today, something bigger than yourselves, bigger than the charity, bigger than the nation, you've come together to emphasize the issue of justice and the belief that everyone is equal regardless of where we live and what country we live in."

Mark Stodola,
Little Rock mayor

forget that sometimes we can let all that stuff exit our life and understand we could get finances to work for this cause instead."

The Rescue participants arrived at the "LRA camp" at 4 p.m. and immediately began preparing for the wait ahead of them. They wrote letters to congressmen, asking for attention to be brought to this issue. Many began calling local cultural and political leaders, "moguls," flooding their office voicemails with pleas for them to attend the event and "rescue" them.

By late Saturday night, most had given up hope that a mogul would appear that day. The camp became quiet, and they crawled into their sleeping bags to sleep off the waiting through the night. But some were not inclined to sleep. Three Harding students, Stackpole, freshman Andrea Stackpole and sophomore Jordan Harris, forfeited most of their night to write a combined 100

letters to every U.S. senator.

Around 5 a.m. on Sunday, cars pulled into the War Memorial's side parking lot, honking as they arrived in a caravan. These were participants from the Oklahoma City Rescue event who had driven all through the night after their city was "rescued" the previous evening to bring support to Little Rock, who had yet to be rescued after more than half a day of waiting. Soon after the first wave from Oklahoma City, "Rescue Riders" arrived from Dallas and Baton Rouge also. With the Rescue Riders came boundless enthusiasm and encouragement.

Charlie Oster from the Dallas group of Rescue Riders also quickly chose to drive to Little Rock to support the Rescue Event across the nation.

"It's one of those things where an opportunity presents itself, and you have to question, 'Why wouldn't I go?'" Oster said. "One of the key questions I asked

was, 'If I don't go, and I wake up tomorrow morning, how am I going to feel?' And the answer was pretty lousy."

As the Little Rock Rescue's participation time grew closer to an entire 24 hours, at 12:30 on Sunday afternoon, Little Rock's mayor, Mark Stodola, made an appearance to rescue the "abductees."

"Your attention and dedication to this issue and your sacrifice last night on behalf of the invisible children is monumental and is important to bring attention to this terrible situation," Stodola said in a speech to the participants. "As you stand out here today, something bigger than yourselves, bigger than the charity, bigger than the nation, you've come together to emphasize the issue of justice and the belief that everyone is equal regardless of where we live and what country we live in."

The atmosphere of the "LRA camp" immediately changed from hopelessness to exhilaration.

"Everyone crowded around, saying thank you and giving [Stodola] hugs," Harding freshman Kayla Ross, the Rescue city leader, said. "I was so tired, but I was happy. Everyone was so excited."

The Little Rock "abductees" were free, and the "LRA camp" emptied as participants returned to their homes, and the Rescue Riders moved on to the next city.

As of Wednesday, Chicago was the only city yet to be rescued.

More information and updates can be found on www.invisiblechildren.com.

WE'RE HIRING!

Positions are available for the
09-10 school year for both
the *Bison* newspaper and
the *Petit Jean* yearbook.

Stop by the yearbook office in the student center
to pick up an application. E-mail any questions to
jdbeauchamp@harding.edu

Available Positions Include:

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INFORMATION

The Bison is a campus newspaper, edited and largely financed by students, seeking to provide high-quality journalistic discussion of issues of concern to the Harding community.

It also serves as an educational tool for students, providing practical experience to enhance skills learned in the classroom.

The Bison recognizes its responsibility to be accurate and objective in its reporting while upholding the Christian ideals for which Harding exists.

It attempts to serve as a forum for student perspectives, welcoming letters to the editor which adhere to ethical and professional standards and are no more than 300 words in length.

Signed columns appearing in the Bison are the views of the writer and may not reflect the official policy of the Harding University administration. Unsigned columns represent the view of the editorial board.

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LETTER POLICY

The Bison welcomes your views on issues of interest to the Harding community.

Letters must be signed, contain a phone number for verification and be no more than 300 words. The Bison reserves the right to edit letters for style, clarity and brevity.

Letters to the editor may be submitted to HU Box 11192.



Are You Ready To Marry?

What I want is a wife!" blurted out a student, sitting on the McInter stairwell. I passed between him and the two young men he spoke to, stopped and asked, "Is that why you're here?" They didn't come right out and say "yes," but I sensed it was a reason. I said I'd pray for them. Later I thought about marriage readiness and wondered how one could know they were ready.

Those thoughts propelled me into the past, and I remembered how much I, at the young age of 14, wanted to marry! I had no idea why I craved so desperately to be loved, nor did I know it was related to the fact that I thought my mother didn't love me, which was not true.

When I married at age 17 and a half, I did not know my handsome husband, who died five years later, was an alcoholic. Then I married two alcoholics after that. I grew up ignorant of so many things, like the fact that my home was a dysfunctional one and that I was sexually abused at age five and a half, which I still do not remember (My mother told me when I was 53 years old!).

In my teens I began reading the Bible and attended church meetings, so I joined a church. The Lord led me into the New Testament church at age 26, but for many years I was not the Christian I wanted to be and knew I should be. I was plagued with deep guilt. I went to extremes. I suffered a lot from unwise decisions and actions. I prayed and cried a lot.

During the year 2005, when I

turned 73, my world began to open up and rapidly change. It was a great healing year for me because I began learning things that made a difference. That year I went to a hundred 12-step meetings, started back to college in the fall and continued to grow in faith and trust in Jesus. Prayers were answered right and left. My abnormal psychology class showed how my life had been plagued with more than one disorder. The trauma I had experienced at age five and a half had resulted in Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, of which amnesia is a symptom, and I certainly had that! I learned the hippocampus does not develop as it should when children are abused at an early age. Research on abuse for a sociology class gave me still more answers and in a greater way I began sharing my pain, which brought greater healing.

This semester I learned more about the hippocampus. According to Daniel Goleman in "Social Intelligence," it is the center for learning and memory and is affected by continued distress "with a disastrous impact on learning," and hippocampus neurons can be killed off "by severe depression or intense trauma." Years ago someone had told me that when one is abused they stop growing emotionally, and I believed it for I had childlike behavior up into my 50s. I now see the puzzle of my life coming together, with a greater understanding of why my life was so full of mental and emotional problems and why I married alcoholics.

Now I ask — and only God knows the answer — "How many Harding

students have had one kind of abuse or another in their childhood and are now suffering bitter consequences?" Some, like me, may not even remember the abuse and as a result pray with tears and pleading, wanting to know why they think and act as they do. They may react like small children or have extreme feelings and actions or be plagued with strong desires to do what they know is not right. Now picture this: two of these individuals meet, fall in love and marry before gaining some insight into their problems as well as a measure of healing. Could they possibly have a successful marriage?

My experiences in life tell me young people should first gain more knowledge of themselves and a good measure of mental and emotional stability before they marry. And I do not recommend they hope or wait to "fall in love," for if you fall, you are apt to get hurt. That is what happened to me — three times! Instead look for, pray for and choose a loving, Christian mate with excellent qualities, such as gentleness, understanding and patience. You (meaning both men and women) are more apt to get a "pearl of great price" if you do these things.

To the men I say, "Happy Hunting!" To the women: Seek "the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is of great worth in God's sight" (1 Peter 3:4 NIV).

BETTY FULOP is a guest contributor for the Bison and may be contacted at bfulop@harding.edu.

Fifty-Four And Out The Door

Fifty-four issues. I doubt it's any sort of record, but I'm proud to have been on staff for three whole years at the Bison, something very few people can claim. Most develop outside, non-newspaper related interests or become too busy with other things and leave after a semester or two. I've witnessed my share of staff members simply burn out from the routine of 3 a.m. deadline panic on Wednesday nights and reading stories that have to be edited (and re-edited) by six staff members.

Here I am for one last issue, and, somehow, it makes me feel like a survivor.

I've been an assistant editor, the editor in chief, a fill-in page designer, a last-second columnist to fill space and the occasional sportswriter. This year, I've settled into the job of cartoonist, something I've been doing off and on since the beginning anyway.

What have I learned?

1. Working for a student newspaper is very difficult, often frustrating work, but there is no feeling like seeing the finished product when it is delivered to campus on Friday mornings (unless there is a glaring error that I caused, in which case it is not as much fun).

2. Charley's makes very good pizza.

The Bison is something few people can understand without seeing the whole student publication process. Usually, the newspaper becomes a standing joke for departments that feel somehow "above" such a product. Professors who've never once journeyed to the student publication offices feel privileged to crack jokes at the Bison's mistakes during class. Oh, people laugh — and I occasionally have a hee-haw about the dumb things I've written — but I'm certain the average students and teachers could not come close to producing the Bison from scratch on their own.



AMANDA PRUITT

The Fish Wrap

In order to fix the general unawareness of students and faculty on this campus, let me de-mystify the student publication process:

First, we have a staff of people who are paid to do what they do. Namely, they are paid to edit, take photos, create graphics, sell advertising, design pages or write stories, and usually a combination of several of these. Usually between 10 and 15 people are on staff at once, and each person has a specific set of jobs . . . and a few additional jobs if things switch into "panic mode," which happens now and again (i.e. the Spring Sing issue).

Staff members report on many things but do not write all the stories. Why? That's because doing so would not leave time for anything else, like editing stories and designing pages. Harding offers a newspaper class in which students are assigned a story each week. However, the columns and features are often written by students and faculty on their own time. It's this system, while still imperfect, that makes the Bison truly for and by the student body.

Wednesday night is deadline night. This might explain why stories occasionally seem a little dated by the time the newspaper is delivered. However, the newspaper press that prints the Bison expects to get pages by 4 p.m. Thursday afternoon, meaning everything must be finished, lest the printers get very angry.

The deadline really is a miracle every week. By 5 p.m. on Wednesdays, it's not too unusual for only two pages to actually resemble newspaper pages. Meanwhile,

we are on our knees, hoping beyond hope that a few stories from the class will get e-mailed to us (they promised they'd turn them in last week). Without the stories, the future of 3A looks bleak. Usually the front page is delayed because a key article can't be completed until the reporter tracks down one last interview. Somehow — I still haven't quite understood this magical process — stories start to filter in, and photographs suddenly appear in the early hours of the morning. Our front-page news rolls through the editing process, and editors begin to piece together the sections.

Nothing sounds so sweet the mechanical whirl of the printer on Wednesday nights because that means pages are finished and ready to edit. If there is no noise, that means we're behind or the printer is broken. In both cases, it's bad news.

After an incredibly long evening, the Bison gets completed on Thursday afternoon and sent electronically to the press.

This brings me to Charley's Pizza. A few years ago, the entire staff dined on the traditional meal of pizza on nearly every deadline night. It was like the weekly "last meal" before the major grind. For me, it was my favorite time of the week because it reminded me of why I loved the Bison experience. We've all seen each other at our worst, complete with that groggy-eyed, zombie state after we've been awake all night working and can barely form a cohesive sentence. Being friends certainly helps the process.

In short, I love what I do. I'm so glad to have worked for three years alongside people who love the very same thing.

Fifty-four issues. Who could believe it?

AMANDA PRUITT serves as the Illustrator of the Bison and may be contacted at akpruit@harding.edu.



JEREMY WATSON

Elementary, My Dear

Life Does Not Begin On May 9

As editor of the Bison, the part I looked forward to both most and least every issue has been writing my column. It's a pretty great gig: a nice, big, open space for me to put whatever I have on my mind at the time. But that's also the problem: It's a nice, big, open space. I have frequently felt like a student with a paper he's left off to the last moment and who has not even decided on a topic.

And that's the main problem, picking what I want to write about. Once I get going, I can get the words on the page quickly enough, but my natural tendencies toward procrastination and the general business of putting together a paper leave me putting off writing my column over and over again, and even this column is being written two and a half hours before deadline, after I was up until 5:30 a.m. putting together the rest of the paper.

But I'm finally here, writing my last column as editor for the Bison, and as you can probably tell, I still don't know what to write about. What do you write at the end of an era? I didn't want to write a typical "farewell" column, one that reflects on my memories of times good and bad and waxes poetic about the potential of the future, but that's what kept springing to mind.

In years past, I've gotten tired of hearing the seniors at the time speak of nothing but graduation for the last three months of school and longer, but now that I'm here, I can understand why they did, although I do still get tired of the question, "What are you doing after graduation?" I feel the same way as a woman who described getting engaged in an online magazine I read: she was frustrated that all anyone ever talked about with her was the wedding: what colors is she using? Have you picked your dress yet? Can I see your ring? She said she was still a person apart from getting married; she still had a life and interests and activities, but no one else seemed to notice or care.

Well, I still have a life and interests and activities apart from graduating, as do, I suspect, most of my fellow graduates. Yes, this is an important moment in our lives, and it is a bit more unique (yes, I know "unique" is a superlative; I don't care) for us than other recent graduating classes: We're going out into a bad economy, and we'll probably get swine flu the moment we leave the protective sphere of Harding's force field (not to mention all the people who will be bringing it here when they gather for the graduation ceremony; didn't think of that, didja?), but it does not define us. When we graduate, we will not magically transform into different people or become "adults"; we'll be the same people, just a little bit more free to do what we want when we want to (which, don't get me wrong, is an incredibly important distinction).

So I will use my last column to issue a plea: give us graduates a break. Ask us what movies we've seen recently, or if we've read any good books lately. Find out about the weekend we spent camping or at a concert or simply hanging out at Midnight Oil. Ask about what we've written that wasn't homework.

Sure, some graduates themselves are completely preoccupied with graduation and the process of it, finishing up last-minute projects and cramming for tests, but the rest of us will enjoy the conversation, and they probably need to take a break anyway.

So I suppose I did end up writing a farewell column after all.

JEREMY WATSON serves as the Editor in Chief of the Bison and may be contacted at jwatson@harding.edu.

Letter To The Editor

The opinions expressed in letters to the editor do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the members of the Bison staff.

God’s Mission Can Be Accomplished Anywhere

With summer fast approaching and many of us spreading out across the nation and globe, last week’s excellent article “Think, Pray Before Getting “Africa Fever” prompted a few thoughts.

God has not selected a favorite place for the Gospel to be spread, and all peoples merit an opportunity to hear the good news. We speak of “missions” and “mission trips” but our terminology is flawed. We do not have “missions” but only one mission. We don’t go on a trip to “do mission work.” We are part of “The Misseo Dei” - or simply, “The Mission of God,” every single day.

God’s mission is for all of creation to again be reconciled to Him. We are part of His creation, and therefore we groan and suffer under the burden and weight of fallenness and sin. Sin wrought a painful, unnatural separation as God crafted mankind to be in communion with Him. Adam and Eve, until they rebelled, apparently were not unaccustomed to seeing the Lord walk in the garden, but sin

changed everything.

What does this mean for each of us?

The student who works in a fast food restaurant because he or she lacks funding or the ability to go overseas to spread the gospel is just as much a part of the Misseo Dei as one who is free to spend the summer in Africa. The woman (or man) who leaves Harding, marries and stays at home with her children here in the United States is just as much a part of the Misseo Dei as a husband/wife team who travel overseas as fully supported “missionaries.” The Christian spending a lifetime in Asia with a receptive people and converting thousands is no better than the missionary who spends a lifetime in Europe and prayerfully reaches only 15. The minister who works with a congregation of 20 in the middle of nowhere is no less important to the Misseo Dei than the one who works with a congregation of 2,000 in Nashville — no matter the difference in their bank accounts or earthly prestige.

All peoples need to embrace the Misseo Dei. We offer this opportunity to those around

us every day if we live life “on purpose,” reach lost souls and spread the good news of Christ.

Yet the Misseo Dei is not simply evangelism, and our grounds to evangelize go much deeper than simply restating Matthew 28:18-20. Our goal is to give glory and honor to God. The gospel of John repeatedly emphasizes that the “hour” for Christ has not yet come, but finally in John 17 Jesus states, “Father, the hour has come, glorify your Son, that the Son may glorify You.” In John 20:21, Jesus appears to the Apostles and tells them, “Peace be with you; as the Father has sent Me, I also send you.” If we accurately understand the concept of honor and glory due the Father, and the Son sends us out with the same mission He embraced — our mission is to glorify the Father.

This does not mean we downplay evangelism or neglect the clear message of Matthew 28:18-20. It actually demands a greater emphasis on evangelism than what we currently hear in our pulpits or use in our daily living. Evangelism is critical because it works to reconcile the creation with the Creator, and

what can give more glory to God than the transformation when a person formerly dedicated to the world turns, kneels, is immersed and pledges to make God’s honor his or her honor?

Yes, it is far easier to raise support for Africa than Europe or church planting domestically, but this does not mean it is the only place to partake in the Misseo Dei. Where would a worker in Africa or South America ask for full-time support if not for the thousands who stay in the United States, faithfully labor and give their first fruits to God?

If you can serve God overseas then by all means — please go, and God be with you. Do not doubt. Do not fear. Raise your hand, and answer the cry of Isaiah saying, “Here am I Lord, send me!” If you cannot, then embrace the Misseo Dei not just this summer but for the rest of your life no matter where you are called to serve.

May God Bless each of you as you partake in His great mission; render glory and honor unto Him and know you have been sent — just as the Father sent the Son.--

- CHARLES BABB, Annual Fund Director



SARAH CROWDER

Guest Space

Tearing Down Walls

This spring break, I had the opportunity to go to a place that I have wanted to go for a very long time. I joined a team from Little Rock composed of doctors, nurses, a farmer, dentists, students and people of many other professions on a medical mission trip to Gonaives, Haiti.

For a few months before our departure, many of the students met together to discuss the needs of those in Gonaives, to learn how to teach about these needs and to bond before we left. These students included Kim and Jen Carlon, pre-P.A. biology majors, and Michael Brooker, an English major. We were joined later by David Pritchett, a student in the P.A. program, and Emily Heymann, a pharmacy student.

In Haiti, we were able to work in several village mobile clinics around the area of Gonaives, providing medication, eyeglasses, first aid and dental attention (which really only entailed pulling teeth) to the people. David was able to use some of his skills helping the doctors assess the patients. Emily used her knowledge base to run the pharmacy, which was, at one point on the trip, entirely run by Harding students.

I am a nursing major, and I was able to help clean wounds, give medications to children, pull a tooth and my favorite — hold babies. We set these mobile clinics up in church buildings in the area and also under the mango trees at the farm run by the Haiti - Christian Development Project.

We heard so many stories in Haiti: stories that could make your hair curl. Stories of love and loss and fighting to live. Many stories that the doctors heard began with the phrase, “Since the flood ...” Every person lost something. Every person lost someone. But in the wake of loss, there were several left behind, people who had to deal with the mess, the heartache and the pain that carries over to this day.

Our last clinical day, we went out further than normal, to a rural town, Bayonnaise. Outside of the building stood three little boys. Whether the children there were just shy, had never seen a white person before or were still traumatized from the storm, we may never know. This I do know. I pride myself on being able to make any child laugh. They could be black, white or purple, and I could at least get them to crack a smile. But no matter how hard I tried, there was no response.

Time and time again I tried. And nothing. And that broke my heart. My miracle of the day was a breakthrough with one of the boys. I don’t know his name, but I will never forget his smile.

Haiti taught me so many things. It taught me the reality of the needs of people. It gave me faces to put with the numbers. But, most of all, Haiti taught me about walls. In Haiti, there are walls around everything. There are walls of cacti or trees around poorer homes and walls of brick and stone with barbed wire around the wealthier. There are walls around the churches, walls around the schools, walls around the hotels.

But the most noticeable place where there are walls is around the hearts of the people. Their immense vulnerability is omnipresent but not always seen because of the protection they have set in place. The incredible thing to me is that these walls are more of a hindrance than a protection for these people.

Progress happens when people do not fear each other but work together as a whole to create a better place. These walls hold in the past, the history of fighting tooth and nail for lives. They keep out the present and the future and the one thing that would bring peace to the nation.

Only when the walls come down will Haiti be able to progress. Otherwise, their vulnerability will consume them from the inside out. When the walls come down, there can be peace because the vulnerability will be replaced by the strength of love and of community that cannot be washed away by any storm.

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Teen Depression Should Not Be Taken Lightly



AMANDA LOY

Guest Space

teens from all angles. It’s inescapable. Relationships with parents are often particularly strained during the teenage years. While the fight for independence is the main argument, many other things can cause stress in the family. School gets progressively harder, and teens start thinking about what they want to do with the rest of their lives, where they want to go to college and whom they want to marry.

Emotional trauma is another trigger for teenage depression. For example, loss is hard for almost everyone, but people inclined to depression seem to be more affected by the loss of a loved one. Loss seems to cut them more deeply to the core. This may be because depressives tend to dwell on upsetting things more than mentally healthy people.

Emotional trauma from being abused in the past can trigger major depression. Many people who suffer from depression have been physically, sexually or verbally abused. This

causes deep-set issues and emotional blocks later in life, triggering long-term depression in most cases. For example, my mother is frequently reminded of abuse and neglect she was subjected to when she was a child. Even when she is doing very well mentally, one thing may remind her of a traumatic memory, and she will spiral into a depression. Traumatic memory triggers are real and serious.

Emotional trauma from ongoing family issues, such as the divorce of parents, tension between a parent and the teenager or neglect of the teen can trigger depression as well. When their families have issues like these, teens in these situations can become very depressed, feeling alone and insecure.

Although there are many environmental triggers, sometimes the trigger for depression in teens is congenital. This means that the problem existed before environmental problems were involved. University Health Services notes on its Web site that “research suggests that depression may be linked to changes in the functioning of brain chemicals called neurotransmitters.” When these brain chemicals don’t react together correctly, the brain is unable to reason properly.

People often say that all teens are moody and that cases in which

a teenager is seriously depressed are rare. That simply isn’t true. Being a teen struggling with real, clinical depression is not a rare occurrence anymore. In fact, depression is a serious and rising issue for American teens today: according to teendepression.org, “about 15 percent to 20 percent of American teens have experienced a serious episode of depression.”

Since depression is an often-misunderstood mental disorder that causes the victim to feel hopeless about getting help, depression can be a serious problem. Untreated, it can affect a teen’s ability to lead a normal life, altering their personality and putting a strain on their relationships. Therefore, depression in teens should not be taken lightly.

The triggers for depression in teens are serious and need to be remembered. Recognizing the four triggers — low self-esteem, anxiety, emotional trauma and congenital issues — will help teens understand and deal with others’ depression or even their own depression, so they can better deal with the problem.

AMANDA LOY is a guest contributor to the Bison and may be contacted at alo1@harding.edu.

Harding Environment Strengthens Personal Faith



TUNDE AKINGBADE

Guest Space

political seasons. It was a bright, sweet afternoon, and the next thing I know I hear gunshots in my direction. I don’t know what I was thinking, but I was able to duck and run from where the shots where being fired. I was OK, but while running I was also being shoved by guys much older and stronger than me. I came back to the place where this had happened because I had to go home, and that was the only way. I walked home like nothing happened. While walking home, I smelled this really nasty, disgusting smell. Later I found this smell to be dead bodies burning (people there were broke, and that was the easiest, cheapest way to bury their dead). I still think about these things sometimes, so I know they had a lasting effect on my state of mind.

I hope being in a better environment here in the U.S. and now Harding will make me change for the better. I have already seen some improvements.

I came to the United States in 2003, to a small town in Missouri and in the

entire history of the school there were just three black guys who graduated from there: my brother, some other guy and me. The reason I say that is to show how small the town was and how people that I didn’t know — strangers — seemed to know me. There were times I would find myself doing things I didn’t want to do because of that. For example, one weekend I found myself drinking and just being stupid. That’s because being treated like I was some kind of king or someone special spoiled me, and I became a world-class jerk, and now I regret that. I said and did things to people that I hate to think about because I hurt them.

After being a jerk, I came to Harding, and this place has changed my personality. It has changed me from being the loudmouth-not-trusting-anyone punk, to a quiet, kind of caring, willing-to-help person. My freshman year at Harding was great; I had fun and friends and always talked and played sports with them; I was even on the intramural soccer league that year, and my team won the whole thing. Then came my sophomore year; things went downhill. All my friends left Harding because it was too expensive. I stayed here, and I would say that was the hardest part of my life since I got a little depressed and wondered what my life would be and

even what the point of going to college was. I mean, you do the same thing every day; it just seemed like an endless circle.

Finally, my environment has affected me spiritually. Here, I have come to know Jesus. I have come to accept Christ — not baptized yet, but accept him. In fact, my faith has changed so much that I know a situation I was in once would have a different outcome now: It was another sunny afternoon, but at a different school, I was in class and next thing I hear is gunshots again. I was scared to death because where I was was a closed place and nowhere to hide or run to, so I stayed put. Next thing I know a bunch of radical Muslims — Muslims were like 50 percent of the population — had come to the school to kill anyone that was not a Muslim. The radical Muslims took everyone out of the building, and one by one asked us our names and religion, so I lied to still live. After that I felt weak and ashamed that I actually denied Jesus just to survive. Since then I swore no matter what happens, life or death, I will never ever denounce my faith — even if it means death.

TUNDE AKINGBADE is a guest contributor to the Bison and may be contacted at aakingb1@harding.edu.

I am originally from Nigeria, which has been called the second most corrupt nation in the world. Being the most corrupt nation is not something to brag about since sometimes this might make people look down on you.

The environment I lived in was terrible. I have seen things and done things that I’m not proud of, and looking back I see was I pretty stupid.

The emotional effect of living in Nigeria is one reason why I have come to the conclusion that the environment I lived in has affected my emotional state and state of mind. For example, an old philosophy that I think is only said in Nigeria is, “Trust no one, fear everyone.” When I was younger, I kind of adopted this rule, which affects me to this day, since it is almost impossible for me to meet someone and understand their motives. Sometimes even if the person genuinely likes and wants to talk to me, I have been known to push them away and keep my distance.

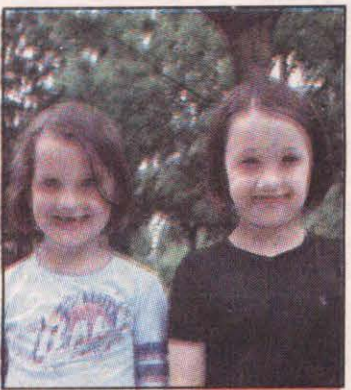
Sometimes at night I wonder why I am alive and still sane. I have been through more gunshots than the average Harding student. I remember one time I was going home from school, during one of the Nigerian

Looking Ahead and Looking Behind



For junior Nicki Custer, the good times of 2008-09 were spent playing sports with her club sisters in Delta Gamma Rho. Committing to a social club, or any organization, may intimidate some incoming freshmen, but Custer said she would advise new students to put themselves out there.

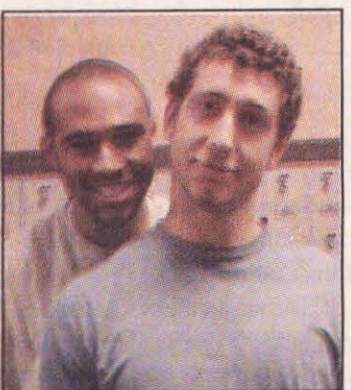
"Get involved, whether it be a club or an organization," she said. "Meet a lot of people, as many as you can your freshman year, because usually those are the people you're friends with."



Though not college students, Maryella and Julianne Baker, the daughters of Andrew and Amy Baker, are still very much a part of Harding. Both girls attend Harding Academy, and both plan on traveling over the summer. Julianne, 7, said she is going to Silver Dollar City in Branson, Mo. Her six-year-old sister will be spending a week in Nicaragua visiting her grandparents.

When asked about going back to school in the fall, neither of the girls expressed much enthusiasm.

"No way!" Julianne said. "I wish the law wasn't that."



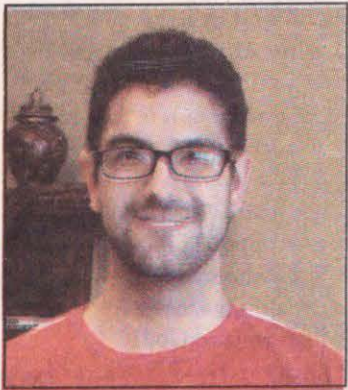
"We have so many good stories," senior Chris Hamilton said. He and senior Josh Jaros both play lacrosse for Harding, but not all the action they see happens on the field.

In one of their outings this year, Jaros and Hamilton drove outside of Searcy with some friends to climb a fire tower they had heard about. A local fire marshal spotted them and "pretty much [chewed] us out for, like, 15 minutes," Jaros said. "Then he calls the cops on us, for trespassing."

The ordeal eventually ended after 45 minutes and some panicked friends, Jaros said. He and Hamilton then reconsidered counting it as one of their "good stories."

"All our stories ... they end well, but at the time we feel like it's not going to end very good," Hamilton said.

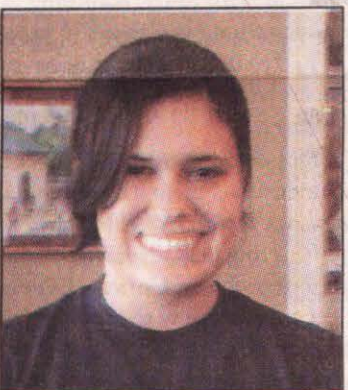
The two met in a music appreciation class years ago, and through all their adventures have become best friends.



Freshman music and international studies major Devon Newburn said he enjoyed his first year at college, even though he is older than the normal freshman at 23 years old. He said he enjoyed getting to spend time outdoors with his friends.

"I think some of my favorite moments were just hanging out with friends at Sugarloaf and camping in the freezing cold and just going out there a lot of times," Newburn said. "Just hiking up that rock and climbing and almost falling to my death various times; that was fun."

Newburn also said he enjoyed participating in a spring break campaign to Phoenix, Ariz., this semester and will be going on a mission trip to Venezuela this summer before returning to Harding.



The overseas programs Harding offers are constantly touted as some of the best experiences students can have during college. Sophomore Spanish major Gabby Marcellini said she agrees, and that the semester she spent in Chile with the Harding University in Latin America program last fall was wonderful.

"One of my favorite memories of this past school year was down in Peru when I was studying abroad in Chile on the HULA program, when we were climbing Machu Picchu," Marcellini said. "There's a mountain behind it call Wayna Picchu, which we all hiked up. We had to get up at 4 in the morning to go hike this mountain and it was raining and gross and cold, and after a two-hour hike we reached the summit and looking down on Machu Picchu ... was breathtaking."

Marcellini said she will spend more time in South America this summer when she lives with a family in Argentina for a month to be immersed in the culture and language.



Senior accounting major Ricky Young said he is excited about graduation and taking his new job in Bentonville, Ark. Ricky accepted an accounting job with Wal-Mart and is looking forward to the next chapter in his life.



Senior Brett Ellis no longer has to hide out next semester. His best moment involves marital bliss, but not his own. "My ex-stalker got married, so I don't get text messages anymore," Brett said with glee.



Club sports were the highlight of Kendall White's year. White, a recent Chi Sigs pledge, said he loved playing sports with his club brothers.



Pledging Delta Gamma Rho this year and the activities it brought along with it have made Alyssa Farris's year. She said she especially loved pledge week with her sisters.



A smile lights Alex McClain's face when she talks about her upcoming trip to Florence with the Harding University in Florence program. "I can't wait to go to HUF in the fall!" she exclaimed.

College provides plenty of opportunities for students to be involved in things outside of classes. Freshman Stephen McBride, a biochemistry and molecular biology major, said he enjoyed getting to participate in a variety of activities this year. "Freshman year was great," McBride said. "I got plugged into a lot of different areas. It was fun being involved in theater, even though I'm a science major."

McBride will continue to be active in different areas this summer as he works as an Honors Symposium counselor and participates in a mission trip to Honduras with the church of a friend he met at Harding.



John Wesley White said buying his first house with his wonderful wife Jessi was the best part of his year. A nice, cozy house on Robby Lane, the new place is a perfect fit for them.

As is typical of every summer, especially at Harding, young couples decide to tie the knot and get married while not in school. This is the case for computer engineering major Drew Spickes and humanities major Kelsey Moon, both seniors, who met at Harding their freshman year and have been dating ever since.

"We are graduating on May 9, and then exactly four weeks later we're going to be getting married, and then for the two weeks after that, we're going to be on our honeymoon, which will be an Alaskan cruise," Spickes said. "Before all of that and then after the cruise we'll be attending a lot of our friends' weddings."

Spickes and Moon said they are looking forward to their honeymoon for the scenery and the gourmet cruise food, and, of course, for the simple fact that they will finally be married.

They said they will be moving to Fort Smith, Ark., afterward, where Spickes will begin working at a job he has waiting for him and Moon will search for a job.



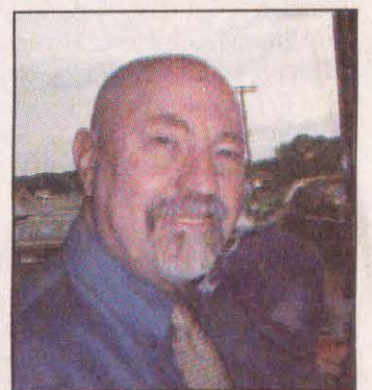
A smile lights Alex McClain's face when she talks about her upcoming trip to Florence with the Harding University in Florence program. "I can't wait to go to HUF in the fall!" she exclaimed.



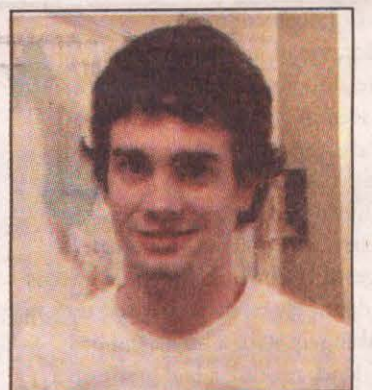
Senior economics and vocational ministry major Michael Crouch had a busy year as Student Association president, but he said he still found time to relax and spend time with friends and guys in his dorm.

"A good memory is staying up until 2 in the morning talking with my roommate about whatever we wanted to and just enjoying the last year of dorm life," Crouch said. "I enjoyed all my time in the dorms."

Crouch spent three years as a resident assistant, one in Allen Hall and the other two in Graduate Hall. He said he plans to work during the summer and attend law school in the fall.



Dr. Mike James, the dean of the College of Communication, said his favorite memory from this past year is when 11-year-old Robbie Shackelford came to chapel. After months of praying for his recovery, seeing Robbie carried in by his father was a memorable event, James said.



A nice thing about college is being able to be around like-minded people in the field of your choice, as senior English major Kurt Cavender said he really discovered this past year. He said he was glad of the opportunities for community provided in the English department, even if he did not take advantage of them as early as he would have liked.

"One of the things I regret is not becoming really active in the English department before my last fall," Cavender said. "I switched to English after my freshman year, 'cause I was a physics and math major, and I was kind of feeling my way around the English department, and I didn't really know anyone and wasn't really sure what was going on until the second semester of my junior year when I finally started getting a groove."

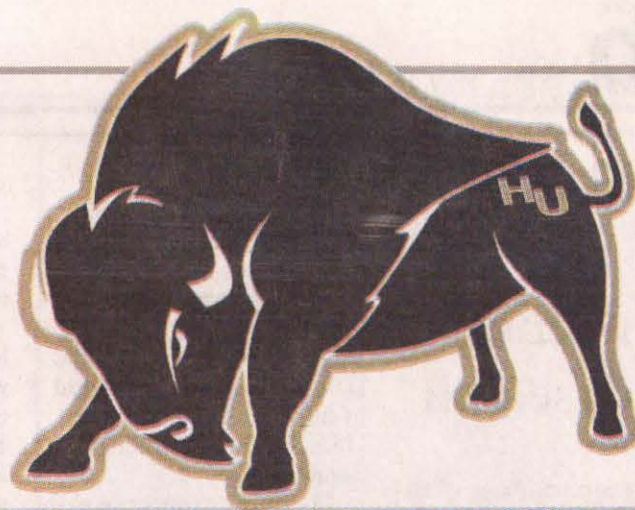
"I wish I had started earlier, just because it's been really rewarding as far as finding a community and being able to interact with people who have the same interests."

Cavender will hopefully continue enjoying the literary community this summer when he gets a job to save up money for grad school at the University of Central Oklahoma. He said he plans to check at all the used bookstores in Oklahoma City to see if they will hire him, or, failing that, to apply at places like Barnes and Noble and Borders.

SECTION B

BISON

the



May 1, 2009

Track program finishing the race

Men's and women's teams complete successful season

by ROBERTO MCGOWAN
student reporter

The 2008-2009 track season may be coming to an end for the Bisons, but it has been a good season.

Head Coach Steve Guymon said he knew coming into this season that he would enjoy being around this year's team.

"It's hard to put into words what I really liked about this team," Guymon said. "I get compliments from different people about how the team carries itself. The character of the team is what I enjoy the most."

At the start of the season, Guymon said the goals were to have each athlete do better than last year, get as many people to nationals as possible, set as many school records as possible and to have All-Americans and academic All-Americans.

Guymon said the thing that most impressed him about the team was how it has come together as one unit.

"Track is a hard sport to be a team because everyone competes individually," he said.

Senior Brian Jones recorded a provisional qualifying height in the pole vault at the Memphis Invitational. Jones cleared 16 feet 3/4 inches to finish second in the pole vault and provisionally qualify for the NCAA II National Outdoor Track and Field Championships for the first time in his career.

Sophomore Daniel Kirwa and freshman Philip Biwott both qualified in the 5,000 meters at the Ole Miss Invitational. Kirwa, the NCAA II defending national champion

in the 10,000, has also recorded an automatic national qualifying time of 29 minutes, 42.05 seconds. Kirwa has not lost the 10,000 in three career races.

On the women's team, juniors Katy Grant and Esther Komen both ran NCAA Division II automatic qualifying times in the 3000 steeplechase, and senior Vicky Schandevl added a provisional time at the Ole Miss Invitational.

Grant's time of 10 minutes, 47.52 seconds broke the Harding record of 10 minutes, 58.42 seconds set by Schandevl in 2006. It was the third-fastest steeplechase time this season in Division II.

Grant broke three school records in less than one month and had her picture taken with Heisman Trophy winner Sam Bradford.

Grant said her pre-season goals were to qualify for nationals, improve her times and to push herself as hard as possible. She also said this season has been very exciting, and she is especially excited about qualifying for nationals.

"I love the steeplechase because it's challenging," Grant said. "My goal was just to run as hard as I could. I know I could not have done it without God and my teammates pushing me along the way."

Grant said the team and Guymon are her biggest motivation. She said she loves running for Harding and feels blessed to be a part of the program.

This year the track team won't compete in a conference championship, but next year the team is invited to compete in the Peach Belt Conference.

Guymon said that as a team the goal for next season will be to win the Peach Belt Conference Championship.



Sports officiating lacking consistency late in games

CHRIS O'DELL

The Leadoff



After seeing two of the hardest fouls in the same night this week during the NBA playoffs, and neither called for a flagrant foul, the lack of officiating consistency late in games is becoming more and more obvious.

During a crucial game 5 of the NBA playoffs, the Boston Celtics got away with murder against the Chicago Bulls. Well, maybe not murder, but at least a flagrant foul that could have easily cost the Celtics the series.

While trailing by two points, the Bulls designed an in-bounds play that set up Brad Miller for a wide open lay-up. However, Rajon Rondo wasn't about to let Miller and the Bulls send the game into another overtime with an uncontested lay-up. So the Celtics' point guard took a swipe at Miller's face to prevent an easy basket.

Usually, a flagrant foul is called if an attempt to block the shot is not made on the foul. I say usually because had the foul occurred in the first half, Rondo would have certainly been called for a flagrant foul. However, because the game was in the final seconds during an overtime thriller in Boston, the NBA refs chose not

to call a flagrant foul, and instead, send Miller to the line for just two free throws. He, of course, missed the free throws after having blood wiped from his face for nearly 10 minutes, and the Bulls went on to lose the game. Chicago now trails the Celtics 2-3 in the series instead of having a 3-2 lead with game 6 in Chicago.

On the same night, a similar situation occurred in Orlando, Fla., when superstar Dwight Howard clearly intentionally elbowed Samuel Dalembert's head. In most cases, this would have been a Flagrant 2 foul with an automatic ejection from the game, no matter how popular the player is. However, not only was Howard not ejected; he wasn't even called for a

flagrant foul. Instead, the Magic's star center was called for only a technical foul that gave Philadelphia one free throw.

Although the Sixers are now getting some delayed justice after the league announced Howard will be suspended for game six of the series, the no-call on Howard still might have cost Philadelphia the series. The Magic are now up 3-2 in the series with a possible game 7 to be played in Orlando and Dwight Howard suiting up for the deciding game.

The NBA isn't the only league with a lack of officiating consistency late in games. In baseball, the strike zone mysteriously seems to grow smaller for star hitters late in a game, and a larger strike

zone appears for the younger, unknown players. The same thing occurs for pitchers late in games. Pitches that were balls earlier in the game for a star pitcher suddenly become a strike right down the middle of the plate.

And in the NHL, players are called for far less penalties late in the third period than they are in the first two and a half periods. For some reason, the refs think deciding a game by sending a player to the penalty box would be an absolute travesty, despite the fact that he committed an obvious penalty.

Or how about in football when a holding or pass interference call is commonly missed on a last-second play to the end-zone?

Every sport seems to change its officiating rules

when a game reaches the last few minutes of play. Superstars from each league are bailed far more than the bench players are, and oftentimes this lack of consistency will cost one team a game or even a series.

This is unfair to the players and to the fans of each sport. The NBA wants the fans to think these were isolated incidents, but we all know they aren't. And until the officiating becomes more consistent, fans will always continue to question the integrity of officiating in sports.

CHRIS O'DELL serves as the sports editor for the 2009 Bison. He may be contacted at codell@harding.edu

Bison Notes

Baseball
finishing
solid seasonInformation courtesy of HU
Sports InformationBisons Sweep UAM
with two Classics

Harding senior Wisley Correa hit his second home run of the series and drove in four to lead the Bisons to a 9-7 victory over Arkansas Tech in the final regular season game of the season Sunday at

Tech Field. Harding, the third seed from the Gulf South Conference West Division, now moves on to meet Alabama-Huntsville on Saturday at 9:30 a.m. in the first round of the GSC Tournament at USA Stadium in Millington, Tenn.

Harding's game time with Alabama-Huntsville had previously been reported to be at 7:30 p.m., but because of a schedule mixup, the time has been changed to 9:30 a.m.

Harding (31-23, 12-9 GSC West) took advantage of four Arkansas Tech errors in the game to score four unearned runs. The Wonder Boys (22-30, 9-12) had 12

hits in the game and walked nine times but stranded 13 runners on base.

The Bisons took a 3-0 lead in the top of the third with two of the runs coming on an RBI single by Correa. Harding's lead was 4-3 after five innings, but the Bisons took advantage of three Arkansas Tech errors to score three unearned runs in the sixth and take a 7-3 lead.

Tech came back with two runs in the sixth to cut the lead to 7-5, where the game stood until the top of the ninth when Correa hit his seventh home run of the season to give Harding a four-run lead. Wonder Boy Landon Sullins hit a two-run home run in the

bottom of the inning, but it was not enough.

Three Bisons earn
All-GSC honors

The Harding men's tennis team had three players earn All-Gulf South Conference honors Wednesday as the conference released its postseason honors. Receiving an All-GSC nod were junior Olzhas Taniyev, senior Marco Ruiz and freshman Henrique Ruiz.

Taniyev, a native of Almaty, Kazakhstan, earned his second All-GSC honor. This season, he compiled an 11-5 singles record, playing 14 of his 16 matches at the #1 singles position. He

won eight of his last 10 singles matches. Taniyev was 12-5 in doubles action, teaming in all but two matches with Chris Beach as Harding's #2 doubles team.

Marco Ruiz, a senior from Sao Paulo, Brazil who has one year of eligibility remaining, earned his third straight All-GSC honor. Ruiz had one of the best seasons ever by a Harding tennis player, recording a 16-1 singles record. His .941 winning percentage tied the Harding record for a single season. He played 14 of his matches at #3 singles and won his first 13 matches.

Henrique Ruiz, the brother of Marco and also from Sao Paulo, Brazil, collected his first All-GSC honor after posting a 12-5

singles record, playing primarily at #2 singles. The Ruiz brothers combined to form Harding's #1 doubles team and collected a 14-4 record together.

Harding completed its season with a 16-7 overall record and a runner-up finish in the Gulf South Conference West Division.

Other honorees from the GSC West Division were Julien Beckenstener of Delta State and Jan Plewinski, Till Heilshorn, Jean Charles Diame and Pierre Tafelski of Ouachita Baptist. Plewinski was the West Division Player of the Year and Diame was the West Division Freshman of the Year. Craig Ward of Ouachita Baptist was the Coach of the Year.

Breaking down NBA playoff match-ups series for series

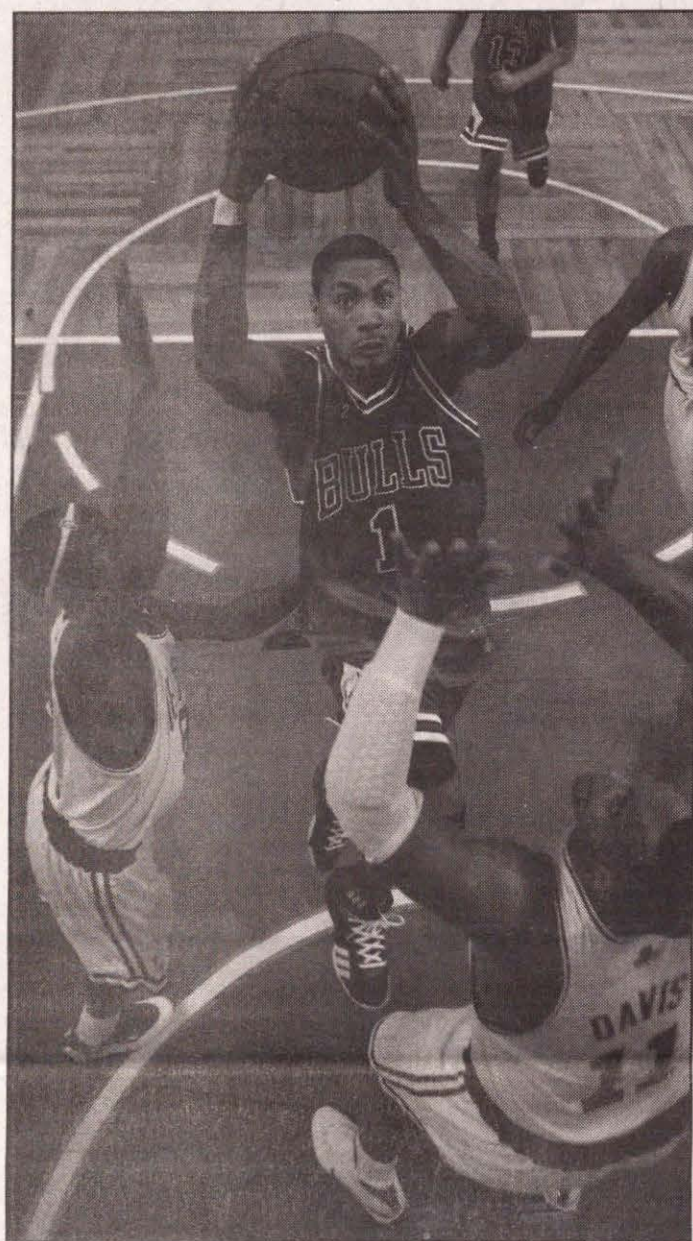


photo courtesy of the Associated Press
Chicago Bulls' Derrick Rose drives to the basket against the Boston Celtics in Boston's 106-104 overtime win in Tuesday's Game 5.

ROBBY CARRIGER

Guest Sports
Column

With the opening round of the NBA playoffs winding down, it only seems right to take a look at each series and figure out what has gone right and what has not worked out well.

The Mavericks and Nuggets had an easier time in the first round than many anticipated. They will now meet in a second round match-up that will begin this Sunday.

The Lakers and Cavaliers coasted right past their first round opponents and still appear to be on an NBA Finals collision course.

However, four series are yet to be decided, so let's take a look at them. (All series standings are current as of Thursday morning)

Houston vs. Portland
(Rockets lead series 3-2)

The West's 4-5 matchup has told us two things. The first is that the Blazers are a year or two away from becoming one of the top teams in the NBA. Brandon Roy is outstanding, and if Greg Oden becomes the center he can be, then Portland will be a force to be reckoned with. As it stands now though, the Rockets are a better basketball

team, which is the second thing we have learned. The addition of Ron Artest has made Houston tough on both ends of the floor, and Shane Battier is playing like Coach K is barking at him from the bench. Houston is going to put this one away in six games, but when next April rolls around look for Portland to make a run.

Atlanta vs. Miami (Hawks lead series 3-2)

While the series is tied at two games apiece, the Hawks and Heat have yet to provide an exciting game. The closest game was a 10-point Atlanta win in game four, in which no Hawk scored more than 15 points. If Jermaine O'Neal continues to show shades of the all star from seasons past, then Miami has a chance to take this series down.

However, Atlanta seems to be the better team, and Dwayne Wade cannot win this series on his own. This one may go seven, but they may be the seven least interesting games of the playoffs. Hawks win in seven.

Philadelphia vs. Orlando
(Magic lead series 3-2)

Does either team want to win this? Orlando should be able to cruise to a series win here, but Philly's new AI (Andre Iguodala) has put the Sixers on his back. If not for Hedo Turkoglu's game-winning three with less than a second left in

game four, the Magic may have found themselves down three to one. In both 76er wins the Magic had big leads evaporate, bringing to light their lack of finishing ability. Much of the blame may have to fall on Orlando head coach Stan Van Gundy, whom Shaq dubbed the master of panic. Every time Philadelphia starts coming back, Van Gundy gets this deer in headlights look and seems to shut down. Orlando is going to win this series on the back of star power, solely because Philly cannot stop Dwight Howard enough to pull the upset. After seeing this series though, it is evident there are a lot of holes on the Magic, and I would not look for them to make a deep run.

Boston vs. Chicago (Celtics lead series 3-2)

I may be a little biased being from Chicago and a Bulls fan, but this is clearly the best series, not only this year but in a long time. Two of the most storied franchises in the NBA have traded body blows and game winning threes for the last week. Ray Allen and Paul Pierce have carried the defending champs sans the Big Ticket to two good wins including a 21-point blowout in Chicago.

Rookie of the Year Derek Rose and gunner Ben Gordon are keeping the Bulls alive with great ball move-

ment and a barrage of deep threes. Despite the Celtics being banged up, they are defending their title like true champions. Although this series may symbolize a changing of the guard in the East, it won't take place for another year or two.

Look for this one to go the distance. I am going to play the homer and go with Chicago in seven, but this thing could literally go either way.

So there you have it. The first round of the NBA playoffs has offered a lot of action and insight, but more than anything it has shown us that no one can stop LeBron James.

The best player in basketball is on a mission, and I don't see anyone standing in his way. After watching all of the other teams play, it seems the Lakers and Cavs will decide this season's champion. The two best players in basketball are going to go head to head like Bird and Magic used to and provide us with what may be a series for the ages.

Be sure to tune in to the Finals in July, and don't forget that you heard it here first ... Cavs in six.

ROBBY CARRIGER is a guest sports columnist for the 2008-2009 Bison. He may be contacted at rcar-rige@harding.edu

Senior pole vaulter finishing career strong

By ROBERTO MCGOWAN
student reporter

Senior Brian Jones is a three-time letter winner for the Bison track team, but recording a provisional qualifying height in the pole vault at the Memphis Invitational has been his best feat yet.

Coach Steve Guymon said Jones had been vaulting around 14 to 15 feet, but he kept pushing himself to jump higher.

After his first three seasons, Jones still could not get over the 15 foot mark.

"Most people would have given up, but not Jones. He just kept pushing himself," Guymon said.

Coach Bryan Phillips said Jones is like the instructor to his pole vaulting teammates.

"I turned the pole vaulting team over to him because he wants to teach and coach," Phillips said.

Jones decided to redshirt last year so he could have one more season to compete: turns out this season has been his toughest yet.

Jones is also student teaching this semester so he now has to manage pole vaulting and teaching. Somehow, Jones has managed to make his toughest season his best season.

Phillips said 16-foot vaulters are hard to find. Jones has improved his vaulting by one and a half feet since high school and he is still capable of doing better.

Phillips said Jones's consistency has improved.

Jones has had a very busy semester. The week before he recorded his provisional qualifying height, Jones received a job offer to teach.

Jones said he loves running, competing for the Bisons, and it has been a lot of fun.

"The team is like a family,"

Jones said. "I feel like God has truly blessed me."

Jones said that in high school he felt like he was just competing against other people. Now, Jones said he feels like vaulting is "competing against self."

Jones said he loves vaulting, and he feels like it made him a better person.

"I'm addicted to vaulting," Jones said. "My motivation is to beat my last jump. I just want to jump higher and higher."

Jones said he has been trying to jump 16 feet or better since his sophomore year when he jumped 15 feet.

Jones cleared 16 feet, 3/4 inches on his first attempt at the Memphis Invitational.

"I knew it was all the off-season work. I felt like all the hard work finally paid off," Jones said.

Jones awaits word on a nationals invitation.

This will be Jones's last season and he said he will miss the competition, pushing himself to limits he never thought possible, the team and the sport itself.

"I have been pole vaulting since the ninth grade, and I really love it," Jones said. Jones said once he picked up that pole he just couldn't put it down.

"Once you start flying its hard to come down," Jones said.

Jones is schedule to graduated in May and after that he will be getting married. Jones has also accepted a job to teach and coach track in Horn Lake, Miss.

"You're going to have ups and downs; moments when you feel your weakest, but never give up," Jones said. "Keep your faith in God. When you reach that pinnacle it's nothing better than seeing all your hard work pay off."

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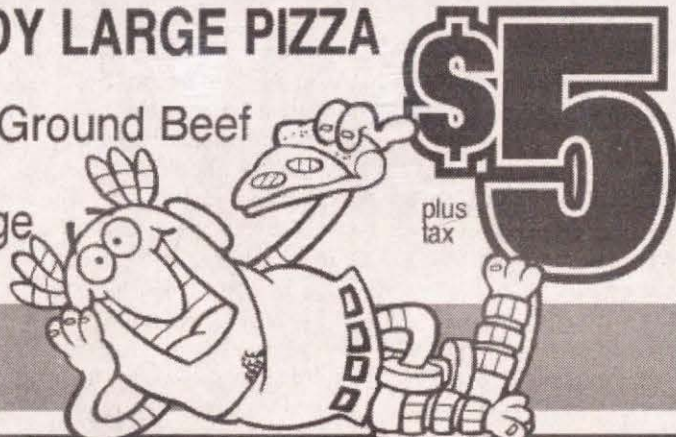
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Harding Alumni Serving Harding Students

Shearin conducts final concert

by JORDAN BAILEY
assistant copy editor

Dr. Arthur Shearin conducted his final concert as director of Concert Choir at 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 12. Shearin is stepping down as director, but he will continue to teach private studio voice lessons and various classes.

Shearin said he is not retiring; he said he hopes to have a few more years at Harding before his retirement.

He said he looks forward to having more time to spend with family, develop other interests and fulfill his responsibilities at College Church.

Kelly Neill will be taking Shearin's place as director of the concert choir when he returns from the University of Missouri-Kansas City, where he has been working on his doctorate in choral performance.

"I'm proud of him, proud that I helped hire him and quite pleased that he will be carrying on as director of Concert Choir," Shearin said. "He'll do a great job."

Students in Concert Choir have high expectations for the future of

the group as Neill begins directing. Freshman Hannah Stewart said she has good memories with Shearin but is anticipating the arrival of Neill.

"I look forward to the future of Concert Choir," Stewart said. "I think soon-to-be Dr. Neil will do a fabulous job and bring his own unique style of teaching to the choir."

McLaine Merrick is a junior who has been in Concert Choir three years, and he said although he has heard next year will be a slower year, he is still excited.

"Well, the future of the choir is pretty positive, with no disregard to Dr. Shearin," Merrick said. "They are bringing in Mr. future Dr. Neil, who is well-loved already in the music department, and morale is pretty high in choir."

Shearin said his favorite memories of his time as director include time spent with students.

Members of Concert Choir reciprocate Shearin's fond memories. Lyn Rushton is a senior, and has been in Concert Choir for the past four years.

"Doc had a tremendous impact on my four years in choir

with him, considering I saw him every day of the week for nearly all four years," Rushton said. "He is a wonderful man, and knowing him and working with him has been a blessing."

Stewart has only had a year's experience with Shearin, but she said he has made an impact.

"Doc has had a definite impact on my choir experience," Stewart said. "I've never met anyone quite like him. From poking fun at those odd-but-lovable ducks we have in choir, to forcing us to sing 'Arise Shine,' singing under the direction of Doc has been a definite experience."

Shearin said he also has fond memories of the concerts the group has given throughout the years.

"I'm pleased to say that we've never given a bad concert, although there are two or three that I wish had been somewhat better," Shearin said. "I can recall specifically which ones those were. At least by my standards, I wish they'd been a little better, but all in all, uniformly good concerts."

Shearin said the Concert Choir performs on campus in chapel and at special events, and they

perform at one or more churches in Searcy annually. He also said that an important part of the group's mission has been to represent the school off campus through concert tours and campaign work.

Shearin's time at Harding began in 1968, when he transferred as a junior from Freed-Hardeman. He graduated in 1970 and served in the military.

Shearin has taught at Harding every semester since 1982, and he directed the Chorale prior to that from 1972 to 1974. In the interim, he was chair of the music department and director of Choral at Freed-Hardeman and earned his doctorate from the University of Colorado at Boulder. From 1993 to 2008, Shearin served as music department chair.

Shearin dedicated his last program to his wife, Sheri Shearin, a Harding assistant dean of students. He said her support of his career since its beginning has been outstanding.

"I am grateful for all of the sacrifices that she and my children have made for me and for Harding," Shearin said. "Sheri truly is King Lemuel's virtuous woman."

World Music



by NOAH DARNELL | Petit Jean Action Committee banquet.

Battery, glass recycling among additions to HU 2009-10 eco-policy

by SAMANTHA
HOLSCHBACH
features editor

In a little more than a year, Harding has gone from recycling practically zero pounds of material to 130,000 pounds and from using 10 recycling bins to 482 bins. In that time, too, recycling has expanded from only paper to plastic bags, bottles and containers, aluminum and other metals, corrugated cardboard and organic material like coffee or tea grounds.

This visible growth and expansion of the "reduce, reuse, recycle" slogan across campus promises to continue with the onset of new eco-friendly implementations that are starting now and in the fall semester.

"For our size school, with what we're trying to do in the short period that we're doing, I think this school is set to be an example and leader," said Greg Tatera, director of Aramark Facility Services and a representative of the Environmental Stewardship Committee, a group of Harding faculty members, students and associates endeavoring to make Harding "greener."

A number of earth-friendly actions have transpired within the past few weeks. Since Earth Day, a 10 percent discount has been established for students who bring their own drink containers (up to 32-ounce capacity) to the student center to be filled with beverages. While it is common for other schools to have a "designated mug" specifically set apart for drink sales, Harding's method is unique in that students can use any drink container they choose.

Additionally, for the first time, portions of the Spring Sing set were given away as spare timber rather than being completely discarded. More

than 2,000 books from the Brackett Library were recycled instead of sent to a landfill. Furniture was donated to the Searcy Public Library, and other materials have been donated to Habitat for Humanity and the Searcy Children's Homes. Recycling bins are now found on all dorm floors rather than just the first floor.

Tatera said a 31 percent reduction in waste disposal costs has been realized since recycling became widespread on campus. More changes and improvements are set to come next fall, which will further reduce Harding's waste.

Clothing donation bins will be available year-round to students, rather than just at the end of semesters.

Harding will introduce limited glass recycling, and all kinds of batteries, including rechargeable and lithium, will be recycled.

More recycling bins will be distributed around campus, particularly in outdoor locales like Harding's front lawn. Finally, reusable to-go containers are being sought for use in the cafeteria.

Amid the recycling program's sizeable reduction in waste, there remains a desire for further cuts to be made. Tatera said he estimates that students are recycling 40 percent of potentially recyclable material.

"If there are things we can do to make [recycling] easier, we're going to try," Tatera said.

In addition to recycling, there are other earth-friendly actions that must be considered.

"Recycling is only one part of it," Tatera said. "As a university, we can only recycle so far. Then we have to start managing some other changes, and that is to reduce and reuse."

Tatera said he believes the student and Harding Administration initiative sparked Harding's recycling program and is behind its success.

"Last year we sent 20 40-yard dumpsters of trash in the month of May alone."

Greg Tatera
director of
Aramark Facility
Services

"The biggest population of Harding comes from out of state," Tatera said. "There are programs in [students'] individual communities and ... states, and you come here and you say, 'OK, what do we have?' And you don't see the same kinds of programs that you're familiar with having. The student support and that of Harding Administration has been one of the biggest reasons for starting up this program and the success we have had so far."

Tatera said students have an opportunity to reduce, reuse and recycle as they move out of their dorms for the summer. Donation stations will be available in every dorm.

"Last year we sent 20 40-yard dumpsters of trash in the month of May alone," Tatera said. "A big majority of the items in those dumpsters could have been recycled or given away."

As Harding's recycling program expands, Tatera said he is hopeful that Harding will set an example for similar universities transitioning to green methods of waste disposal and conservation.

"I think this school has a great opportunity to be a leader in the state of Arkansas," Tatera said. "I check Web sites, and I don't see other schools of our size this involved. The University of Arkansas-Fayetteville is way beyond where we are, but they've been at it for years."

Galaxy eyes new charter

by CAROLINE DAMRON
student reporter

Following in the footsteps Delta Nu and Zeta Pi Zeta, a new social club is in the works. This one is for the guys.

Last fall there was news that the "old school" men's club Galaxy was going to resurface. The club disbanded in 1997. Plans were even underway to make the club official, according to Campus Life Director Corey McEntyre. Plans were underway, prospective members were slowly gathering under the radar, but alas still no Galaxy.

Rob Drake is one of the students who has been at the forefront of starting Galaxy.

"[Starting a new club] has been a long process," Drake said.

"We tried last year and were unsuccessful due to the imbalance of girl's to men's clubs, but now that there are more girls clubs, we are able to do it."

Even though Galaxy has not begun officially, Drake said he is still confident that the club will happen.

"The deans have been very helpful ... [but] it is a lot of behind the scenes work," he said.

Drake said new members are to remain anonymous until the club is made official. However, when asked, a prospective club member said he was not even sure if Galaxy was going to happen. The idea for the new men's club is there, and members are ready, but McEntyre said he has not heard from the students in charge in quite a while.

According to McEntyre, the new club missed the deadline required to participate in club week next semester. However, McEntyre said even after they missed the deadline they expressed the desire to still form the new club. They would not be able to actively participate in club week with a new pledge class, but they would be able to participate with their class of 50 charter members.

Drake said he is hopeful that Galaxy will become official. However, most of the evidence speaks otherwise. There are a lot of people excited about a new men's club, but only at club open house next semester will the student body really know if Galaxy will be back in action.

Reverend: Social justice key to religious harmony

by NICK SMELSER
student reporter

HUmanity hosted the Rev. Malik Saafir, who spoke about using social justice to bridge the gap between Islam and Christianity, Tuesday, April 21.

Saafir began with his life story; he was born to Baptist parents in Little Rock, Ark. He said he grew up in the church and felt a calling to preach the gospel. He joined the Navy and became a preacher on the ship he was stationed on. He became a Pentecostal youth minister after he left the Navy, but he was excommunicated for his forward thinking.

He converted to Sunni Islam at the age of 24 and then converted to Judaism. Saafir said that after much meditation and prayer, he returned to Christianity as a pastor of the United Methodist Church.

He said his experiences gave him a more open view of all religions.

"There is no doubt where the religions stand on things like the poor and the widows," Saafir said.

"We are to help them."

Saafir also made some points about doctrine. He said one of the problems with the way Christianity is preached is the lack of embodying of the Holy Spirit.

He said dying for someone who is marginalized is honorable in either religion. He also said people should care for their brothers, and people should work backwards when working out stereotypes. He ended the evening encouraging the audience of 33 to walk with open minds.

The student reaction to the talk was a positive one. Mul-

multiple students said they felt the talk was both eye opening and informative, but some of them said they wished he had been a bit more solid in his ideas.

"I thought he was a very intriguing and thoughtful fellow," Rachele Martindale said, "I wish he could have given a few more concrete examples of the common ground he has been working on."

Others had nothing but praise to sing for the speaker.

"I really enjoyed what he had to say," Jordan Harris said, "He has experienced these religions, and he knows what should be done."

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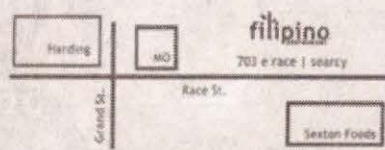
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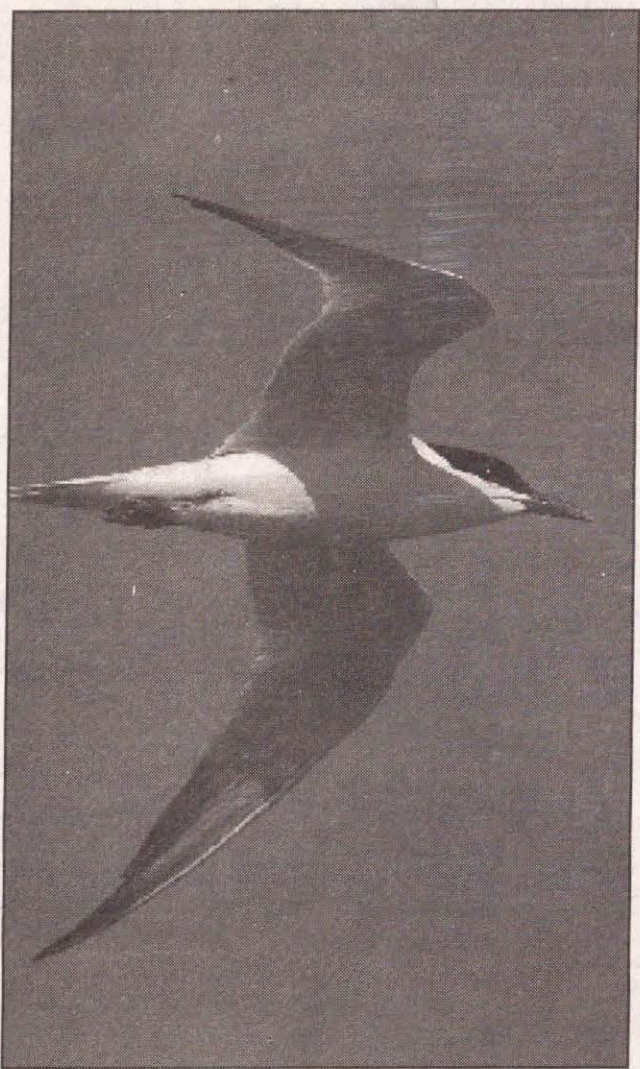


photo courtesy of CHARLES MILLS

Birders from around the state flocked to Rohwer, Ark. on Sunday to see a Gull-billed Tern, the first of its species seen within the state. A one-day wonder, the tern caught crayfish in a number of ponds brimming with shorebirds.

Mountain View attracts tourists to Folk Festival

By REBECCA HARRELL
student reporter

Every spring, a small, remote mountain town throws a festival. This festival centers on bluegrass, country and folk music. There are vendors selling jewelry, home-made quilts and baskets, and there are always funnel cake stands everywhere you look.

Mountain View, Ark., which is about an hour and a half north of Searcy, is the host of Folk Festival. With its quaint town square and little, ornate shops, Mountain View attracts tourists from around the country, including New York, California and Wisconsin. But while some travel far to come to this three-day festival, other tourists are more fortunate. Students from Harding University don't have to travel quite that far. Many college kids love to take a break from the crowded campus to drive up into the lush Ozark Mountains.

Folk Festival offers a very different environment than that of Searcy. It offers an authentic small-town feel. It offers beautiful scenery. And, most importantly, it offers a much needed getaway from school work and all the stress that college brings.

"It was great," senior Becky Townsend said. "The weather was beautiful even though it rained. We still had a blast. We went through the town and bought knick-knacks, ate at a great little restaurant and just walked up and down the main street. Then we went out to Blanchard Springs and just sat outside. It was so peaceful."

Other students beside Townsend felt similar.

"Folk Fest is one of my favorite events to go to," freshman Rachel Harrell said. "The town is great, the music is fun and the place is just gorgeous. I love it."

Over time, Mountain View has gained quite a reputation as being the "Folk Music Capital of the World." Over the course of Folk Festival weekend, there are many little groups that take up residence

"The town is great, the music is fun and the place is just gorgeous. I love it."

Rachel Harrell
freshman

around the square. They set up chairs, bring their instruments, have plenty of food and drinks and begin playing music. While most of the people who play are older, that does not stop them from jamming well into the early morning hours. Those who happen to still be in town around 1 a.m. can almost always find people still awake and still playing music.

"We stayed in town till about 8:30 p.m., and then we headed to the drive-in," senior Whitney Hall said. "We watched the movie, and when it ended, it was about midnight. When we drove back through town, the square was still alive and going. People everywhere were just playing music and laughing and having a great time. We stopped and listened for a while, but we were pretty tired, so we left. They just kept going. It was a neat thing to see."

Mountain View and Folk Festival are unique. Together they bring a sense of peace and comfort. It lets people from big cities enjoy the small-town life, and it lets people from small towns feel like they are back at home.

"I'm from Jacksonville, which isn't huge, but it's much bigger than Mountain View," Townsend said. "This was the first time that I had been able to go to Folk Fest, and it was just a neat place to be. It definitely felt like Mayberry a little bit. But it was a great place to go for the day."

Every spring when the weather gets nice and the trees get green, Folk Fest is only an hour and a half from Searcy. Students who get Spring Fever and need a day away can escape to this three-day festival in the Ozark Mountains.

Trio aspires to teach in Africa

By KIM KOKERNOT
assistant news editor

Unlike most groups of friends who separate after graduating from college, one trio is planning their future together. On August 23, seniors Jacque Breuer, Sarah Hug and Bethany Cannon will leave for Togo, Africa, where they will teach the children of the missionaries who work there.

"We all feel called to something other than sitting in a cubicle for the rest of our lives," Breuer said. "I think that because we're graduating, and we are not necessarily tied to any particular place, it's kind of the prime time to be able to go and do something like this."

For nine months, the girls will teach the local missionaries' children at the Kara Christian Academy. Although none of the girls majored in education, they will be responsible for teaching 10 children in grades preschool through sixth grade.

"The main benefit of our team to the whole is that the wives of the missionaries can then do mission work," Cannon said. "They will be freed up during the day to go out in the villages and do teaching, evangelism or women's work that they do there."

Along with teaching together, the girls will share an apartment located on the

"We all feel called to something other than sitting in a cubicle for the rest of our lives."

Jacque Breuer
senior

second floor of the schoolhouse. In preparation for living and working in close conditions, the girls have spent the past semester building a foundation of communication.

"Because we are going to be living in really close proximity for nine months in a foreign country, going through culture shock and working with kids, I think most mental preparation that we've done is just spending a lot of time together and making sure that we're open about things that happen," Breuer said.

This close bond has allowed for open dialogue about the expected trials of living in a developing country, including the challenges of culture shock. Two of the girls, Hug and Cannon, have experience working in developing countries through internships, but Togo will be Breuer's first trip into an underdeveloped nation.

"I don't really know what to expect at all, but I know that Sarah and Bethany will help me through it," Breuer said.

Although Hug's internship was in the same area of Togo that the girls will be working in, she said she feels that her role as an educator will shape her focus in a new way.

"I think it will be a different experience than my internship because as teachers, we will have a job that we will be doing each day," Hug said. "We won't be able to go out and see the people in the community and be able to help out with things around the town. My math job and main focus needs to be working with the kids."

She said she also expects their time in Africa to be a spiritual learning experience.

"I think this will be a challenge for me, I think maybe for all of us," Hug said. "It's kind of our first step out of college. We still have the missionaries, but out there we aren't going to have a church to go to on Sundays that's full of Americans speaking English and singing the praise songs we recognize. We're going to be surrounded by a different perspective of people who are there worshipping God."

Breuer said she hopes that as the girls grow mentally and spiritually during their time in Togo, the economic climate will shift in the States.

"This kind of came at a really good time with our economic recession right

now," Breuer said. "I'm hoping, crossing my fingers and praying to God that by the time we get back, things will be better, and it will be easier for us to find jobs and maybe pursue the jobs that we want."

Breuer also said that even though they will be "pushed back a year in a lot of ways," their experiences will prove beneficial when they rejoin the American workforce.

"People who have the capacity to go to a developing country for a prolonged period of time are going to have a different mindset that I think is valued in any workplace," Breuer said.

For now, the team faces the reality of working on a volunteer basis. Because they are not being paid by the missionaries, they are raising the money that will cover travel expenses, rent, food, medical care and other necessities.

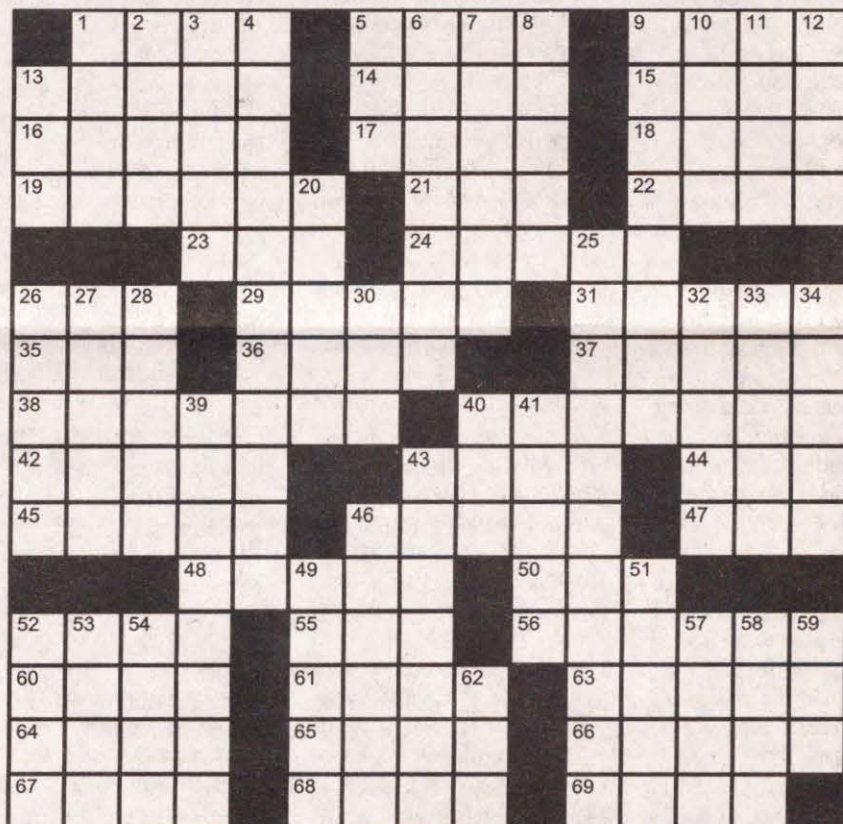
With an estimated \$15,000 to raise, the girls agreed that although fundraising has been stressful, it has served as a reminder that God is the ultimate provider.

"With fundraising, I think it is an opportunity for God to glorify himself, and he will and he is," Cannon said. "I have seen him provide in really unexpected ways, and I've seen God's love and character in people just being sweet and wanting to be part of this."

The Bison Crossword

Across

- 1 Direction
- 5 Heroic verse
- 9 Blue-green
- 13 Capital of India
- 14 Pop
- 15 Wolf (Sp.)
- 16 Comforts
- 17 Clip
- 18 Ripened
- 19 Crimp
- 21 Digit
- 22 Crown
- 23 Hard liquor
- 24 Plaudit
- 26 Bundle
- 29 Tropical tree
- 31 Comic falls
- 35 Anger
- 36 Fuel
- 37 Turk. title
- 38 EU member
- 40 Ceremonial staff
- 42 Up next
- 43 Actress Clayburgh
- 44 Gr. letter
- 45 Fritter away
- 46 Religious song
- 47 Cheer
- 48 Squeak
- 50 Tub
- 52 Just about
- 55 Resort
- 56 Opuses
- 60 Saddle horse
- 61 Variety
- 63 Linen type
- 64 Bull (Sp.)
- 65 Poker term
- 66 Weighty
- 67 Cameo stone



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- 68 Votes
- 69 Write down

Down

- 1 Put on
- 2 Other
- 3 Give a sheep a haircut
- 4 Gift wrap
- 5 id ____; n' -ce-pas?
- 6 Foreboding
- 7 High degree of foolishness
- 8 Desert animal
- 9 Pompous rhetoric

- 10 Hindu theistic philosophy
- 11 Assist
- 12 Lymph gland
- 13 Month (Abbr.)
- 20 Coal
- 25 Name
- 26 Female heir, at times
- 27 Stadium
- 28 Auto mishaps
- 30 Hardwood
- 32 Daisylike flower
- 33 Gr. letter
- 34 Bernhardt, for one
- 39 Toy car name
- 40 Title
- 41 Spice
- 43 Indonesia city
- 46 Gangster
- 49 Composition
- 51 Before charger or jet
- 52 Global security org.
- 53 Golf club
- 54 Indiana city
- 57 Food selection
- 58 To be (Lat.)
- 59 Her
- 62 Your (Fr.)

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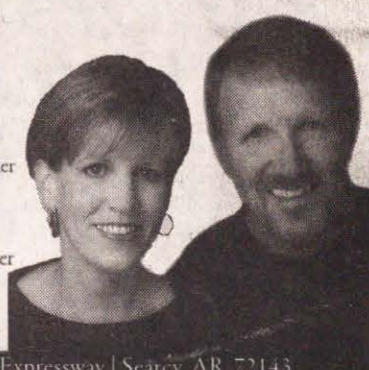


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Chapel focuses upon McInteer

Longtime board member spoke in week of chapel devos

By RACHEL DENZIN
student reporter

During the last week in February, students and faculty of Harding received the privilege of hearing Jim Bill McInteer speak in chapel for a special week-long series on various life topics.

McInteer spoke in an interview-style devotional with Bruce McLarty, Vice President for Spiritual Life, asking the questions. McInteer spoke on the topics of Jesus, the church, Harding and marriage. And on Friday McInteer spoke in preaching-style on the topic of prayer.

The reason for inviting McInteer to speak for an entire week in chapel was in part because "we have always had a great admiration for Jim Bill McInteer as a Harding icon, a deeply respected Christian leader and a living connection with Harding's earliest days in Searcy," McLarty said.

"We wanted students to be able to identify with someone who was much older and had a long history in the church, as well as at Harding," President David Burks said. "That is not an easy connection to make, and we thought if anybody can do it, it would be Jim Bill McInteer. And I think he has made that connection."

Students have not been the only ones who have been able to enjoy the week of these special devotionals.

McInteer said he always enjoys speaking at Harding, an institution that from the time he arrived as a student up until now "has never disappointed" him.

"That is so wonderful to come to a spot where you can be in love with it from the first day," McInteer said.

McLarty brought up the idea for the interview-style chapel. He presented the idea to the chapel committee, and they thought it was great idea, according to Burks. The committee saw this style as more of a conversation than simply a lecture.

"We felt that the interview-style presentations would give us the greatest opportunity to engage Brother McInteer's rich storehouse of experience," McLarty said.

"I think there are probably many lessons that students will take away from this week that would have been hard to preach," Burks said.

Although everyone involved with the planning of this chapel loved the idea of the interview-style chapel, McInteer himself was not too excited.

"I thought I was coming to preach but [Burks and McLarty] said no," McInteer said. "I kind of feel like I am fighting in Saul's armor — it doesn't really fit me."

"He was concerned that [the interview-style devotionals] would put too much focus on him and not enough on the word of God," McLarty said.

The topics chosen for the week were also chosen by McLarty.

McLarty said he remembered growing up in Memphis and McInteer speaking at his home congregation. He remembered "some of his rich life experiences." McLarty said he "felt that the subjects of Jesus, church, Harding and marriage" would be good guides for the discussions "to get the most out of the week."

McLarty said that originally, he wanted Friday's chapel subject to be heaven, but McInteer had a strong desire to speak on prayer. McInteer also wanted to speak in the typical chapel speech format because preaching from the pulpit is what he has done his entire life and what he enjoys most.

McLarty said the purpose of having McInteer speak in chapel for an entire week was so that students could learn from his wisdom and truly get a feel for who he is, which is something that cannot be accomplished in 15 minutes.

"One [hope for the week] was that it might give all of us a deeper sense of our roots in the faith," McLarty said. "I think that hearing from godly older Christians does that for us."

"Another was to hear from someone who loves God

dearly and who knows that he doesn't have many more years on this earth."

"[McInteer] is so genuine in terms of how he has lived through generations, and through all that time he has been able to connect his faith with people of all ages," Burks said. "Isn't that beautiful, and isn't that a lesson for students to take away from this week?"

McLarty compared McInteer to a modern-day Barnabas and said he is truly a "son of encouragement" for so many. He said McInteer has, for many years, read church bulletins from across the country. When he finds a preacher's article reprinted in another church's bulletin, he sends that bulletin to the preacher, along with a note of appreciation for that person's ministry. McLarty said he received one of these letters and was "deeply touched by that gesture."

"That's the heart and work of a Barnabas!" McLarty said.

There are many lessons students could walk away with from McInteer's week-long devotional talks.

"He is one of those almost bigger than life preachers," Burks said.

Burks said one lesson he would like students to learn from McInteer is faithfulness.

"Faithfulness to your savior and to the church over a long life of service; faithfulness to your wife, even if she has Alzheimer's and is very difficult to take care of; faithfulness to Harding; faithfulness to prayer," Burks said. "And believe that all of this is very real."

McLarty said one lesson that he hopes students took away from McInteer's devotional talks is to connect with the "living connection with Harding's heritage." He said he hoped it would help "all of us connect more strongly and deeply with our spiritual roots here at this special place."

"I would like to think that someday, a number of students who have been in chapel this week will walk through the McInteer building's atrium with their grandchildren," McLarty said. "And

I hope that they will pause and tell their grandchildren, 'I remember a special week when the man this building was named for shared with us the stories of his life. I was there that week, and I treasure those memories.'"

McInteer said the most important thing he hopes students took away from his devotionals is to see the "living glory of the scriptures" and that "what we believe is foundational from the Bible."

"[What we believe] is not man's opinion; it is not the benefit of human experience, but it is simply the revelation of the Scriptures," McInteer said. "They are much alive, and I want people to see how alive those Scriptures are. And I am not reading a book that is 2,000 years old; I am reading a book that is as current as you and I."

Through his tears, jokes, story-telling and preaching, students were able to bear witness to the heart of a truly genuine and wholly dedicated servant of Christ, Jim Bill McInteer.

Sudoku

		5		4	8			
			6			2		
3	7		5					
	1				9	3		5
	3	6						
							1	
7				8	1			
5	2				3	7		
	4					1		

Below: Answers To Previous Crossword And Sudoku Puzzles

BOOK	APED		EVA
EDGE	TRENT		GRAM
EIRE	HORAH		ROLE
NEPHEW		REASON	
SAIL		CINDER	
LIARS		RFDs	
BUCKETSEATS		FIT	
ALOE	URI	BITE	
GUN	CLINGSTONES		
BAIT		CHASM	
SCENTS		SOIR	
ATLAST		LONDON	
SEER	LICIT	IDES	
TEAS	ELUDE	NORA	
ART	LEER	GROG	

4	2	7	5	9	8	3	1	6
6	5	9	1	4	3	8	7	2
1	3	8	6	2	7	9	5	4
9	8	4	7	6	5	2	3	1
5	6	2	4	3	1	7	8	9
3	7	1	9	8	2	4	6	5
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8	4	5	2	7	6	1	9	3
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Student Plummets 70 Feet, Falls Into Friends' Care

By REBECCA HARRELL
student reporter

He fell about 70 feet into a ravine. He broke both arms, had multiple fractures in an elbow, fractured and dislocated one of his hips, bruised both his heart and lungs and lay without medical attention for more than nine hours. And only one week after his terrible accident, Tyler Kerr was out of the hospital and back on campus.

On the weekend of April 3rd, Kerr and group of friends headed up to a little place right outside of Harrison, Ark., called Hemmed In Hollow for a camping trip. This group included Adam Parker, Tyler Bond, Brian Brennon, Nick Lehman, Austin Richardson, Michael Reevas, JR Johnston and Russell Woods.

"This camping trip was our trip to end all trips, because part of the group is graduating this May," Johnston said. "This was our man trip."

On Friday, the group packed and left Searcy. Once the group arrived at Hemmed In Hollow, they began to hike the 2.5 miles to the campsite. This was the beginning of their problems.

After hiking for a while, they realized they had taken a wrong turn. Because it was dark, they could not tell where they should have been. Kerr offered to hike up the mountain to see if he could tell which direction

they needed to go. While Kerr was looking around, Woods and Lehman stayed on the mountain with him. The rest of the group hiked back down to the bottom.

"A few minutes had passed since the guy left, and Nick and I were watching Kerr running in and out of the cliffs up top," Woods said. "We were yelling at him to be careful up there and to take his time."

Kerr appeared a few minutes later on the edge of a cliff, and he had decided to jump to a tree instead of climbing back down because it looked easier.

"He stood there for about five minutes talking to us saying he was considering it, but at the same time Nick and I were telling him it probably wouldn't be such a good idea," Woods said. "At the time, we couldn't see just how far of a drop it would be if he missed, but we could just tell that it was far enough."

Kerr told them that if they didn't hear from him soon they should come after him.

"After a quick prayer, Tyler finally jumped toward the tree," Woods said. "The tree Kerr jumped for was damaged during [an] ice storm and he could not tell because it was dark. After he jumped and grabbed on to the tree, about 10 feet of it snapped off and went falling more than 70 feet toward the ground with Tyler with it."

"I immediately yelled at Nick to go and get help from the guys. I dropped every-

thing I had on me and began screaming his name repetitively while running in the direction he fell. I obviously had a lot going through my head at the time."

Woods kept yelling Kerr's name and got no response for about 20 to 30 seconds. Kerr finally responded and started relaying what was wrong with himself.

"I told him I was almost to him and not to move," Woods said. "I was surprised to find him actually scooting on the ground towards me, and I just responded with a 'Please don't move!'"

Once Woods reached Kerr, he was able to see that Kerr had broken both of his arms, and had some chipped teeth, a bloody lip and a possibly broken left leg.

"I did the best I could in cleaning up the blood by ripping part of my shirt," Woods said. "Then I needed to see just how bad he was bleeding, so I ripped part of his shirt where his arms were because the bone had punctured the skin just a little bit. After a few more minutes of trying to clean him up and stop the bleeding, Tyler Bond and Adam both showed up and told me they sent Reevas up the trail to go call for help."

Russell then called 911, Tyler's mother and then his own dad. Woods' father used to be a park ranger in that area of forest and knew that it would be little bit before help could reach them. As Russell's dad predicted, the helicopter was not able to land in such rough terrain. While search and rescue was fighting their way up the mountain, the rest of the group did everything they could to help Tyler.

"For the remaining time, Adam, Brian, Austin and I did nothing but try to keep Kerr as warm as possible and keep him talking because we didn't want his body to go into shock after suffering a fall like that," Woods said. "It was really hard to keep him warm because it was about 40 degrees and we couldn't get between Kerr and the cold ground. At the time everyone was doing something to pull



their own weight in keeping him alive. Brian was cuddling with him. Adam and I were keeping his feet warm. Austin was doctoring his cuts and the rest of the guys were down at camp bringing up food and keeping the fire going for whenever the help arrived."

At about 3:30 a.m., help was finally able to reach Kerr. However, they were not able to start back down immediately.

"It took them a while to get there, but it's only because they had to carry all of their medical equipment, which included stretchers and medication," Woods said. "They spent the next couple of hours doctoring him up getting him ready for what was going to be a rough trip out of Hemmed In Hollow. Needless to say, it was a rough ride for Tyler on the way down because there were so many obstacles to go over like big boulders, drop-offs and loose rocks. Every now and then one of us would slip while carrying Kerr on the stretcher. [At the original camp site] we were greeted by a 20-man team ready to work on getting Tyler out of there."

Once the party was down the mountain, the 20-man team took Tyler directly to the helicopter.

"Search and rescue teams took Kerr to an open area to Life Flight him out to Fayetteville," Johnston

said. "After all the search and rescue people left, the rest of us went to bed to rest after a physically and mentally demanding night before we started our hard hike back up to our cars to go see Kerr at the hospital."

Once Kerr was safely at the hospital, his extended family was notified. David Mitchell, a former Searcy fire fighter and Kerr's uncle, drove to see Kerr in Fayetteville the next day as soon as he learned what had happened.

"Those guys saved his life," Mitchell said. "They were really smart to keep him warm. We owe them a big thank you."

Now only a few weeks later, Kerr said he is feeling much better, considering the severity of the injuries he suffered.

"I usually don't hurt unless I try to do something I'm not supposed to, like pick up something too heavy or move a joint too far," Kerr said.

Kerr said he is still in a wheelchair, but that he can hop on his good leg around the house.

Kerr said he is excited to return for finals week and see his friends at Harding.

"I miss seeing everyone at Harding very much," Kerr said.

